

Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

Thursday, 10 November 2016

commencing at 9:00am

Council Chambers, 1 Omrah Avenue, Caloundra

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	DECLARATION OF OPENING	5
2	WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER	5
3	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
4	RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	5
5	OBLIGATIONS OF COUNCILLORS	5
5.1	DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS	5
5.2	DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS	5
6	MAYORAL MINUTE	5
7	PRESENTATIONS / COUNCILLOR REPORTS	5
8	REPORTS DIRECT TO COUNCIL	7
8.1	CORPORATE SERVICES	7
8.1.1	SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016	7
8.1.2	2015/16 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	73
8.1.3	QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2016/2017	145
8.2	PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT	217
8.2.1	BIODIVERSITY REPORT 2016	217
8.3	CORPORATE SERVICES	225
8.3.1	APPROVAL TO COMMENCE THE LOCAL LAW MAKING PROCESS	225
8.3.2	DELEGATION TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER - SUSTAINABLE PLANNING ACT DELEGATION	255
8.3.3	SEPTEMBER 2016 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT	271
8.4	COMMUNITY SERVICES	287
8.4.1	CONONDALE MEMORIAL RECREATION PARK MASTER PLAN 2016-2031	287

8.4.2	PARKING AMNESTY FOR CALOUNDRA CBD.....	297
8.5	INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	305
8.5.1	ANNUAL REPORT ON COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES 2015/16.....	305
8.5.2	DICKY BEACH PRECINCT PLAN	315
8.5.3	WEEKEND NIGHT TIME CLOSURE OF OCEAN STREET, MAROOCHYDORE.....	325
8.6	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS	337
8.7	OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO	339
8.7.1	REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS	339
8.7.2	AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING 5 OCTOBER 2016.....	349
9	NOTIFIED MOTIONS	363
10	TABLING OF PETITIONS	363
11	CONFIDENTIAL SESSION	364
11.1	PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT	364
11.1.1	CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - INTERIM PARKING ARRANGEMENTS.....	364
11.2	CORPORATE SERVICES	365
11.2.1	CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2016/2017.....	365
11.3	COMMUNITY SERVICES	366
11.4	INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	366
11.5	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS	366
11.6	OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO	366
12	NEXT MEETING.....	366
13	MEETING CLOSURE.....	366

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 13 October 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 CORPORATE SERVICES****8.1.1 SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016**

File No:	Statutory Meetings
Author:	Coordinator Corporate Plan Reporting and Risk Corporate Services Department
Appendices:	App A - 2015/2016 Annual Report11

PURPOSE

This report presents the Annual Report for Sunshine Coast Council, covering the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

The Annual Report 2015/2016 is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 2009* and provides all statutory information required by the Act and associated Regulation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Annual Report is one of the ways in which council informs the community and stakeholders about the services council has delivered, the projects it has undertaken, and its achievements during the financial year. It also includes council's audited financial statements.

The major achievements for the year include:

A new economy

- Sunshine Coast Airport expansion moved a step closer with the environmental impact statement approved
- Record number of passengers flew in and out of the Sunshine Coast Airport
- Development activity reached a seven-year high
- \$180 million in total purchasing spend was awarded to local businesses
- Major events generated about \$100 million in economic activity

A strong community

- More than 9000 events were held at community venues, attracting more than 600,000 patrons
- Delivered over 1800 library programs and workshops to more than 46,000 participants
- Provided \$3.8 million in grants to more than 700 community applicants.

An enviable lifestyle and environment

- A number of key centres throughout the region are being revitalized and transformed
- 2830 hectares of environment land acquired since the 1990s
- 115 landholder environment grants approved to the value of almost \$330,000
- 77 new Land for Wildlife properties registered with a total property size of 850 hectares.

Service excellence and a Public sector leader

- Customer satisfaction with council's services increased by 15%
- Construction of the Sunshine Coast solar farm commenced
- Clean audit report for the seventh consecutive year
- Recognised with more than 15 awards

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "Sunshine Coast Council Annual Report 2015/2016"**
- adopt the Sunshine Coast Council Annual Report 2015/2016 (Appendix A) and**
- note that the Chief Executive Officer may make minor amendments to the Annual Report to allow for publication.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The cost of preparing the Annual Report is included within the Corporate Governance Branch annual budget. To minimise costs the report has been designed for viewing online. This will provide easy access and retrieval of the report via council's website and reduce the necessity for printing costs.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *An outstanding organisation*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service

Operational Activity: S31 - Governance - providing internal leadership, legal opinion, governance and audit functions ensuring legislative accountability, transparency and ethical obligations are supported

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Councillor Hungerford as Portfolio Councillor for Governance and Customer Service has been briefed on this report.

Internal Consultation

Corporate Governance worked with staff from the Office of the Mayor and CEO and Communications Branch in the development of this report.

External Consultation

There has been no external consultation in preparing this report.

Community Engagement

There has been no community consultation in preparing this report. The report once adopted by council will be promoted to the community.

PROPOSAL

The Annual Report presents information on implementation of council's corporate and operational plans over the past financial year and features major achievements and highlights. The contents required in the Annual Report are determined by legislation.

The Annual Report 2015/2016 is comprised of four parts and each part is detailed below:

Section 1 - Introduction

Provides introductory information to the Annual Report and contains:

- Message from the Mayor and message from the Chief Executive Officer
- Key statistics on the Sunshine Coast and council
- Councillor names, divisions and portfolios
- Executive Leadership Team names and positions
- Organisation structure

Section 2 - Report on Implementation of the Corporate and Operational Plans

This section is structured around the five corporate goals and includes:

- Highlights in delivering the Corporate Plan 2014-2019 and Operational Plan 2015/2016
- Major achievements
- Performance measures

Section 3 - Annual Disclosures

Covers all non-financial information required to be published in council's Annual Report. In addition, disclosures considered best practice in Annual Reports, such as information on governance and risk management are included.

Section 4 - Financial information

This section contains council's Community Financial Report, audited financial statements and other financial information required under the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Legal

The Annual Report has been compiled following the requirements of legislation including the *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012* and *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*.

Policy

There are no policy implications associated with the Annual Report however the report is a component of the Strategic Corporate Planning and Reporting Framework.

Risk

There are no risk management issues associated with the recommendation in this report.

Previous Council Resolution

There are no previous resolutions in relation to the Annual Report 2015/2016.

Related Documentation

Council adopted the:

- Corporate Plan 2014-2019 on 12 May 2014
- Operational Plan 2015/2016 on 18 June 2015
- Budget and Forward Estimates 2015/2016 on 25 June 2015

Critical Dates

Under *Local Government Regulation 2012(s182)* council must adopt the Annual Report within one month after the auditor-general provides the audit report and be published within two weeks of adoption (*Local Government Regulation 2012 s182*).

Implementation

Following adoption, publication and communication channels will include:

- Sunshine Coast Council website – document viewing and ability to download the report and/or print
- Distribution of printed copy to council libraries and customer service centres.

Community organisations and individuals requiring a copy of the Annual Report will be able to purchase from council's customer service centres or print a free copy from council's website.

8.1.2 2015/16 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

File No:	Audit External
Author:	Coordinator Financial Accounting Corporate Services Department
Attachments:	Att 1 - Independent Auditors Report and Certified General Purpose Financial Statements 2015/1679

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2016 in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2015/16 Financial Statements have been audited by our external auditors the Queensland Audit Office (QAO) to ensure accounting and legislative compliance.

Queensland Audit Office has issued an unmodified audit opinion as contained in their "Independent Auditor's Report and Certified General Purpose Financial Statements 2015/16" attached (Attachment 1).

Council derived an operating surplus of \$26.1 million for the year, and QAO noted that Councils that consistently achieve operating surplus, having regard to asset management and community service level needs, are considered financially sustainable.

Council's overall financial sustainability has been assessed as "lower risk" which is the highest achievable rating. In addition, Council's other financial sustainability indicators are better than the average for South East Queensland councils.

Council received the highest achievable rating for timeliness and quality of financial statement preparation, as well as effectiveness of internal controls. The internal control elements include the control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring of controls.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "2015/16 Financial Statements" and**
- (b) note the 2015/16 Financial Statements and associated financial information will be included as Section 4 of the 2015/16 Annual Report.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

As per Section 176 and 183 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, it is required that the Financial Statements for the year must be audited by the Queensland Audit Office or their contracted representative, to ensure accounting and legislative compliance.

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

The Portfolio Councillor has received advice of this report from the Audit Committee process.

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation involved the following departments, branches and controlled entities:

- Legal Services
- Audit and Assurance
- Finance
- Infrastructure Services
- Human Resources
- Corporate Governance
- Procurement and Contracts
- Sunshine Coast Events Centre Pty Ltd
- SunCentral Maroochydore Pty Ltd

External Consultation

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu were consulted on specific accounting treatments incorporated in the draft 2015/16 Financial Statements.

External auditors Queensland Audit Office have audited the draft 2015/16 Financial Statements.

Community Engagement

No community engagement was required for this report.

PROPOSAL

The statutory financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2016, along with comparative figures for 2015, are attached (Attachment 1).

These statements have been reviewed through the Audit Committee process as follows:-

- Draft financial statements presented to Audit Committee on 5 September 2016;
- Draft financial statements audited by Queensland Audit Office during the period 12 September 2016 to 30 September 2016;
- Final draft financial statements and Queensland Office Closing Report for the year ended 30 June 2016 presented to Audit Committee on 5 October 2016.

Queensland Audit Office has issued an unmodified audit opinion as contained in their "Independent Auditor's Report and Certified General Purpose Financial Statements" attached (Attachment 1).

Council v Consolidated Statements

Council's financial statements are presented in consolidation format, with 2 columns representing Council's stand-alone position, and a second column where Council's interest in its subsidiaries is disclosed.

On consolidation, Council's interest in its wholly owned subsidiaries (SunCentral Maroochydore Pty Ltd and the Sunshine Coast Events Centre Pty Ltd), and its associate (Unitywater), are included.

In the table below, Council's stand-alone results are reported as they are more directly comparable to Council's Budget and Monthly Financial Performance Reports. In addition the operating result and cash flows for Council are considered to be a better reflection of Council's position. The consolidated statements include accounting entries to recognise a share of the profits of Council's subsidiaries and associated entities. In the case of Unitywater this share of profit is not directly available to Council until received in the form of dividends in future years.

Significant Accounting Issues

During the independent audit of Council's Financial Statements, there were no material adjustments required to the statements previously presented to the Audit Committee.

In addition, Council received the following assessments with respect to financial statement preparation, effectiveness of internal controls, and overall financial sustainability:-

- Financial statement preparation was assessed as "timely" and "good quality";
- Effectiveness of internal controls including the control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information & communication and monitoring of controls, was assessed as "generally effective"; and
- Overall financial sustainability risk assessment was regarded "lower risk".

It should be noted that the assessment criteria used for the above has been made more stringent for the 2015/16 year compared to previous years.

For example, to achieve a "timely" assessment, financial statements must be completed by 25 October. This is 4 days earlier than the previous target of 29 October.

The quality assessment with respect to financial statement preparation measures how effective Council's own check of the financial statements is at identifying and correcting errors, before they are provided to audit. The allowable margin for error to achieve a "good quality" assessment has reduced from 5% to 2%.

The above assessments achieved by Council for the 2015/16 financial statements are the highest possible ratings to be received from an external audit and indicate a significant achievement.

Council's key financial outcomes for 2015/16 are included in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Council Comparatives	2015/16 (\$'000)	2014/15 (\$'000)
Operating (Recurrent) Revenue	398,889	380,254
Operating (Recurrent) Expenditure	372,811	347,066
Operating Surplus	26,078	33,188
Net Result	157,082	158,835
Cash	318,556	287,386
Debt (QTC)	293,979	267,169
Net Assets	4,633,867	4,464,922
Key Indicators	%	%
Operating Surplus(1)	6.5	8.7
Asset Sustainability(2)	88.0	70.4
Net Liabilities(3)	9.7	11.8

- (1) Operating Surplus Ratio – This indicator measures the extent to which our operating revenue exceeds our expenditure. Target: Between 0% and 10%.

The Queensland Audit Office Closing Report for the year ended 30 June 2016 (QAO Closing Report) presented to the 5 October 2016 Audit Committee noted that Councils that consistently achieve operating surplus, and those that expect to do so in the future, having regard to asset management and community service level needs, are considered financially sustainable.

In addition, Sunshine Coast Council has consistently achieved higher operating surpluses than the average for South East Queensland councils for the reported financial years 2011/12 to 2014/15.

- (2) Asset Sustainability Ratio – Measures the extent to which our infrastructure assets are managed, with an orderly renewal regime in place. The ratio of 88.0% is a strong result considering Sunshine Coast Council's relatively young asset base, and reflects Council's ongoing commitment to the renewal of its assets.

The QAO Closing Report noted that a result of less than the target of 90% is sometimes a characteristic of growing councils that are investing in new infrastructure. Council's ratio marginally exceeded the average for South East Queensland councils in 2014/15. The noted improvement in the ratio, while remaining under target, would be indicative of Council's endeavours to continually maintain and renew infrastructure.

- (3) Net Liabilities (Financial) Ratio – The indicator measures the extent to which the net liabilities of Council can be repaid from our operating revenue streams. Target: Not greater than 60%.

The QAO Closing Report noted that this result indicates that Council has sufficient operating revenues to service its current debt levels without stress, and could increase debt if and when required. Sunshine Coast Council's results in this ratio are consistently and significantly better than the average for South East Queensland councils for the reported financial years 2011/12 to 2014/15.

Legal

Section 182 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, states that the Financial Statements must be presented to Council within one month of receiving the signed Auditor's report.

Policy

There are no relevant policies related to this report.

Risk

Council has a statutory obligation to prepare annual general purpose financial statements that are subject to audit by the Auditor-General or their contracted representative.

Previous Council Resolution

There are no previous council resolutions that relate to this report.

Related Documentation

There is no related documentation for this report.

Critical Dates

The 2015/16 Financial Statements must be presented to Council within one month of receiving the Certificate of Audit from the external auditors, and lodged with the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning by 31 October 2016.

Implementation

There are no implementation details to include in this report.

8.1.3 QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2016/2017

File No:	Council Meeting 10 November 2016
Author:	Coordinator Corporate Plan Reporting and Risk Corporate Services Department
Appendices:	App A - CEO's Quarterly Progress Report149
	App B - Operational Plan Activities Report..... 179
	App C - Performance Measures Report209

PURPOSE

This report presents the Quarterly Progress Report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2016 - Quarter 1.

This report has been prepared to inform council and the community on delivery of the services, implementation of operational activities and significant operating projects from council's Operational Plan 2016/2017 and Corporate Plan 2014-2019.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each quarter, council receives a progress report on the delivery of the Corporate and Operational Plans. The report once adopted, is published and made available to the community.

The Report is comprised of:

- Appendix A – reports from the Chief Executive Officer and Directors which outline service delivery
- Appendix B – report on the 140 operational activities flowing from Council's Operational Plan 2016-2017 and
- Appendix C – report showing corporate plan goal performance.

Highlights for the quarter ended 30 September 2016 are:

A new economy

- The Ironman 70.3 World Championships attracted 3000 competitors from 80 countries, contributing an estimated \$15 million to the local economy
- Caloundra Centre Master Plan – the framework to revitalise the centre of Caloundra was unveiled in September
- Sunshine Coast Airport announced new services with QantasLink (to Melbourne) and Jetstar (to Adelaide).

A strong community

- The 10th Caloundra Music Festival attracted crowds in excess of 30,000
- Horizon Festival of Arts and Culture held more than 220 events over 10 days attracting an audience in excess of 35,000 people

A healthy environment

- The Environment Levy Annual Report was published highlighting the program's significant contributions
- Council published its first Organisational Environmental Sustainability Benchmarking Report to demonstrate our sustainability efforts

Service excellence

- Sunshine Coast Solar Farm construction is well underway with over 25 solar panel tables, each holding 40 solar panels installed
- Financial statements audit received the highest possible assessment from the Queensland Audit Office with no issues raised for internal controls or financial reporting

An outstanding organisation

- Council unveiled Australia's first, high-tech, automated waste collection system for the new Maroochydore City Centre
- Council's Social Strategy was recognised as an Australian Business Awards winner for its community contributions

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

- receive and note the report titled "Quarterly Progress Report - Quarter 1, 2016/2017"**
- note the Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Progress Report – Quarter 1, 1 July to 30 September 2016 (Appendix A) on service delivery**
- note the Operational Plan Activities Report – quarter ended September 2016 (Appendix B) reporting on implementation of the Corporate and Operational Plans and**
- note the Performance Measures Report as at end of September 2016 (Appendix C) reporting on Corporate Plan goal performance.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

Financial reporting information is not included in the report. A Financial Performance Report is provided to Council each month covering operating revenue and expenses and capital programs.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *An outstanding organisation*
Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service
Operational Activity: S31 - Governance - providing internal leadership, legal opinion, governance and audit functions ensuring legislative accountability, transparency and ethical obligations are supported

CONSULTATION**Portfolio Councillor Consultation**

Councillor Hungerford as Portfolio Councillor for Governance and Customer Service has been briefed on this report.

Internal Consultation

Consultation has occurred with each department of council to provide information on service delivery and status of operational activities.

External Consultation

There has been no external consultation in relation to this report however the report is made available to the community following adoption.

Community Engagement

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

PROPOSAL

The Corporate Plan 2014-2019 and Operational Plan 2016/2017 have a strong focus on the core services that council delivers to the community. In addition, these plans also identify the operational activities that council will undertake, that align to council's goals.

Service delivery

The Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Progress Report – Quarter 1 (Appendix A) consists of the Chief Executive Officer's summary report and Directors' detailed reports. The purpose of the report is to inform council and the community on the delivery of core services outlined in Council's corporate plan.

Operational activities

The Operational Plan Activities Report – Quarter ended September 2016 (Appendix B) provides details on the implementation of operational activities and significant operating projects outlined in council's operational plan. It includes the status of each activity and project in the operational plan covering percentage complete, anticipated completion date and progress commentary.

Table 1 provides a summary on the status of all operational activities and significant operating projects.

Status	Number
Completed	2
Underway	137
Not started	1
Total	140

Table 1: Summary of all operational activities and significant operating projects

Corporate Plan Goal Performance Measures

The 28 performance measures endorsed by council, are included as Appendix C to this report. The majority of the measures have a three-monthly reporting frequency with performance for other measures captured and reported at agreed intervals. All performance measures will be reported to council across the year and published in the Annual Report.

Legal

There is a legislative requirement to provide a report on performance against the corporate and operational plans. This report meets the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and Regulation.

Policy

There is no policy associated with the presentation of a quarterly progress report however it is a component of the Strategic Corporate Planning and Reporting Framework.

Risk

Directors have provided in their reports an overview of service delivery for the quarter, including the outlook for the future and any associated risks.

In accordance with council's Enterprise Risk Management Framework, the risks and opportunities identified in relation to the quarterly progress report include:

- reputation/public image: the report provides complete information on council's operations and builds a positive reputation for council with the community
- legislative: the report meets the legislative requirements of the Local Government Act and Regulation, and
- business activity: the report keeps council informed about the progression of the operational plan activities and provides a timely account of council's progress to the community.

Previous Council Resolution

Council adopted the:

- Corporate Plan 2014-2019 on 12 May 2014
- Operational Plan 2016-2017 on 9 June 2016

Related Documentation

- Corporate Plan 2014-2019
- Operational Plan 2016-2017
- Financial information provided to council in the Financial and Capital management report

Critical Dates

Quarterly Progress reports are usually presented to council within eight weeks of the end of the calendar quarter, subject to the scheduled meeting cycle. Legislation requires the report to be presented to council at intervals of not more than 3 months.

Implementation

The report will be published and available for community access via council's website. The Chief Executive Officer and Directors will provide a verbal report to council at the Ordinary Meeting.

8.2 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

8.2.1 BIODIVERSITY REPORT 2016

File No:	Council Meetings
Author:	Manager Environment and Sustainability Policy Planning and Environment Department
Appendices:	App A - Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pg 5 / 299 App B - Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area - Report Overview Pg 173 / 299 App C - Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area - Report Snapshot 223

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area for consideration and approval.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sunshine Coast is valued for its natural landscapes, waterways, beaches and diverse plants and animals. This biodiversity is essential to our region's liveability and contributes to the Sunshine Coast's 'natural advantage'.

As a key operational activity of Council's Corporate Plan and as an action in the Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2020, the Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area has been developed to provide

- a benchmark of the region's biodiversity assets which future biodiversity reports can be compared against and
- a monitoring and reporting framework to assist in evaluating the effectiveness of council's and the community's biodiversity protection, enhancement and management efforts

The Biodiversity Report 2016 found that the Sunshine Coast landscape continues to support a diverse range of flora, fauna and ecosystems, making the Sunshine Coast one of the most biodiverse areas in South East Queensland. The Biodiversity Report 2016 assesses vegetation, habitat, flora and fauna and the conservation estate at both the Sunshine Coast local government area and catchment scale.

The biodiversity in Sunshine Coast Council's local government area includes:

- 124,283 hectares of vegetation consisting of 92,866 hectares of native remnant and 31,417 hectares of non-remnant vegetation
- 75 different vegetation types (regional ecosystems) grouped into 6 broad vegetation communities including; eucalypt, rainforest, melaleuca, heath, mangrove and foredune
- diverse range of plants and animals including 76 flora and 59 fauna species classified as either endangered, vulnerable or near threatened under Commonwealth and State environmental legislation
- approximately 60,000 hectares of land conserving 54,000 hectares of vegetation which includes 39,684 hectares in State protected areas, 5,139 hectares in Council owned and managed lands and 9,438 hectares in private conservation areas
- 71 of the 75 regional ecosystems represented in the conservation estate.

The results of the Biodiversity Report 2016 provide essential information that will enable Sunshine Coast Council to better understand our biodiversity assets, identify priority investment areas and inform the review and development of new environmental strategies for biodiversity conservation.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Biodiversity Report 2016”
- (b) adopt the Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area (Appendix A), the report overview (Appendix B) and the report snapshot (Appendix C).

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The development of the Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area was funded through approved operational funding.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A healthy environment*

Outcome: 3.1 - Healthy natural ecosystems and protected remnant vegetation

Operational Activity: 3.1.1.1 - Analyse biodiversity data to inform biodiversity conservation, management actions and reporting

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

The Environment Portfolio Councillor, Cr Jenny McKay has been briefed.

Internal Consultation

Consultation on the Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Report 2016 has occurred with officers from the Environmental Operations Branch (Natural Areas, Community Conservation and Partnerships), Community Response (Healthy Places) and Development Services Branch.

External Consultation

The reporting framework used in the Biodiversity Report 2016 has previously been peer reviewed by representatives from the State Government’s Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, the University of the Sunshine Coast and South East Queensland Catchments. A briefing has been provided to local Queensland Parks and Wildlife officers.

Community Engagement

No community engagement has been undertaken in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

The Biodiversity Report 2016 (Biodiversity Report) for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area provides a snapshot of the region’s biodiversity assets and establishes an effective benchmark against which future management and program performance can be compared against. The Biodiversity Report is based on available data and discussions are informed by sound science and technical expertise. The report will strengthen biodiversity planning and management outcomes for the Sunshine Coast.

Background

The Sunshine Coast is valued for its natural landscapes, waterways, beaches and diverse plants and animals and remains one of the most biodiverse areas in south east Queensland. This biodiversity is essential to our region's liveability and contributes to the Sunshine Coast's 'natural advantage'. Ensuring we maintain the balance right between our new economy, vibrant communities and a healthy environment will be crucial as we work towards becoming Australia's most sustainable region.

In response to council's Corporate Plan goal of a "healthy environment", council has developed and is implementing, in partnership with the community, the Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2020 which guides biodiversity conservation and management on the Sunshine Coast.

A key action of the Strategy was to develop a comprehensive biodiversity monitoring and reporting framework, which is the Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area. The Biodiversity Report provides a baseline against which future reports can be compared against to evaluate the effectiveness of efforts in biodiversity conservation and management on the Sunshine Coast.

Four categories were used in the Biodiversity Report to assess different aspects of biodiversity including: vegetation, habitat, flora and fauna and the conservation estate providing information on the amount, extent and distribution of vegetation communities, information on our habitat areas, listed threatened plants and animals, and the extent and type of vegetation being conserved.

Vegetation

Prior to European settlement, the Sunshine Coast Council area had more than 225,000 hectares of vegetation. Today, 54 percent (124,283 hectares) of the vegetation has been retained. With the rest of the vegetation having been cleared for agricultural and urban development. The remaining vegetation is made up of 75 different regional ecosystems that can be grouped into six broad vegetation communities including, foredune, mangrove and saltpan, heath and wallum, melaleuca, eucalypt and rainforest.

Eucalypt and rainforest vegetation communities have been the most heavily impacted, with some of these remaining communities now listed as endangered and vulnerable. Understanding changes in our vegetation extents over time will assist to inform adaptive management strategies to deliver biodiversity conservation outcomes.

Habitat

The Sunshine Coast's remnant and non-remnant vegetation collectively defines the Sunshine Coast's habitat areas, which includes 67,101 hectares of core habitat, 50,056 hectares of connecting habitat and 7,126 hectares of other habitat areas.

The core habitat areas are the primary element of the biodiversity network and are defined as connected and consolidated vegetation areas greater than 50 hectares, which provide a high level of ecological functionality. The second, and equally as important, element of the network is the connecting habitat areas that provide important refugia and vegetated corridors that enable wildlife to move between core habitat areas. The remaining vegetation consists of isolated, more fragmented patches of vegetation in the landscape which is considered other habitat areas.

It is important to understand the core, connecting and other habitat areas and the diverse range of animals and plants they support in order to inform biodiversity conservation outcomes. The Noosa- Maroochy Wallum Area which extends from the lower Maroochy estuary to Noosa National Park and includes significant mangrove, heath, melaleuca and eucalypt vegetation communities supporting an array of important and iconic fauna species is an example of a cluster of well-connected core habitat areas.

Flora and Fauna

The Sunshine Coast local government area has a diverse range of plant and animals however, 135 of these species are classified as endangered, vulnerable or near threatened. Included in this category are the swamp stringybark, Buderim holly, koala and the glossy black cockatoo.

Conservation Estate

The conservation estate consists of approximately 60,000 hectares of land that conserves about 44 percent (54,173 hectares) of the remaining remnant and non-remnant vegetation on the Sunshine Coast. The conserved vegetation consists of approximately 39,000 hectares in State protected areas (i.e. National Parks), 5,139 hectares in Council owned and trustee managed reserves (including nature refuges), 666 hectares in private nature refuges, 1,477 hectares in environmental covenants and approximately 7,295 hectares in Land for Wildlife properties. The remaining 57 percent (69,877 hectares) of vegetation represents an opportunity for future biodiversity conservation initiatives.

Twenty eight regional ecosystems have been identified as having limited representation in our conservation estate including, four heath and wallum, three melaleuca, 18 eucalypt and three rainforest communities. Consideration of these vegetation communities should be given when investing in land acquisition to protect environmentally significant lands.

The Biodiversity Report also provides biodiversity information on each of the Sunshine Coast's five major river catchments which possess different values, levels of conservation and management challenges. A summary of some catchment findings, includes;

- The Mooloolah River catchment occurs entirely within the Sunshine Coast Council local government area while the Maroochy River catchment has 99% of its watershed within the council boundary.
- The Maroochy River catchment has known records of 75 listed rare and threatened flora and fauna species, the most of any catchment.
- the Mooloolah River catchment has experienced the greatest declines of riparian vegetation of any Sunshine Coast catchment, having lost more than 95% of the upper catchment's riparian remnant vegetation.
- The Mary River catchment has the greatest area of habitat protected by the conservation estate with nearly 30,000 hectares.
- The Pumicestone Passage catchment has had the greatest decline in vegetation cover with almost 70% of the catchment's vegetation lost.

The results from the Biodiversity Report provide valuable information to inform the review and development of new strategic directions being prepared for biodiversity conservation at both the region-wide and catchment scale.

This report recommends council approve the Biodiversity Report 2016 for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area and make publically available via council's website.

Legal

There are no legal implications for this report.

Policy

The Biodiversity Report is identified as an operational activity in the Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan 2014-2019 and as an action in the Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010 - 2020.

Risk

There are no risks associated with this report.

Previous Council Resolution

There is no previous council resolution relevant to this report.

Related Documentation

- Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan 2014 – 2019
- Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010 – 2020
- Sunshine Coast Waterways and Coastal Management Strategy 2011-2021
- Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016
- Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014
- SEQ Natural Resource Management Plan 2009-2031

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates associated with this report.

Implementation

The Biodiversity Report is an important part of implementing the Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy. It provides information that will inform the development of new strategic directions, strengthen existing investments and assist Council's Environment Levy land acquisition program in the identification of key investment areas and individual land parcels. It will also assist to inform other biodiversity conservation programs (e.g. Land for Wildlife and covenants) and priority areas to target.

If approved, it is intended that the:

- report overview and snapshot would be promoted through media, social networking and council's website
- technical report would be graphically designed and
- a new Biodiversity Report would be prepared when new vegetation data is captured and processed.

8.3 CORPORATE SERVICES

8.3.1 APPROVAL TO COMMENCE THE LOCAL LAW MAKING PROCESS

File No:	Council Meetings	
Author:	Manager Corporate Governance Corporate Services Department	
Attachments:	Att 1 - Map 2.5.12 Mooloolaba current map	237
	Att 2 - Map 2.5.12 Mooloolaba proposed new map	239
	Att 3 - Map 2.6.15 Petrie Park, Nambour current map.....	241
	Att 4 - Map 2.6.15 Petrie Park, Nambour new proposed map ...	243
	Att 5 - Map 2.6.19 Point Cartwright Reserve current map.....	245
	Att 6 - Map 2.6.19 Point Carwright Reserve new proposed map	247
	Att 7 - Map 2.6.20 Point Cartwright Reserve current map.....	249
	Att 8 - Map 2.6.20 Point Cartwright Reserve new proposed map	251
	Att 9 - Map 2.6.40 The Avenue Park, Peregian Springs new proposed map	253

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to introduce Council to a number of proposed local law amendments and to seek Council's approval to commence the local law making process.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A comprehensive review of Council's suite of local laws generally takes place every two years in order to ensure that a current and responsive approach to local law issues and regulation is maintained. However, at times amendments to Council's suite of local laws occur outside of these scheduled reviews in order to respond to urgent community issues.

This report introduces a number of proposed amendments to *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* that have been requested by the relevant divisional Councillor, namely:

- remove the current prohibition of dogs from Mooloolaba Beach between beach access 192-195 (current prohibition is between beach access 171-195)
- include a new dog off-leash area on the Mooloolah River walkway between La Balsa Park and beach access 196.
- include a new dog off-leash area in the beach area known as Half Moon Bay of Point Cartwright (beach access 196)
- include a new dog off-leash area at The Avenue Park, Peregian Springs
- amendment to the existing dog off-leash area at Petrie Creek Park, Nambour

This report seeks Council's endorsement to commence with the local law making process to amend *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* to include the abovementioned changes.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Approval to commence the local law making process” and
- (b) proceed to commence the local law making process to incorporate amendments within *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* as outlined in the report titled “Approval to commence the local law making process”.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The cost of drafting the amendment local law, community consultation and the gazettal notice will be funded through existing budget allocations within the Corporate Governance Branch.

Table 1 below outlines the estimated finance and resourcing implications expected as a result of progressing with the local law making process for the proposed amendments. These estimates have been provided by the relevant operational area of Council.

Table 1 – Finance and Resourcing

Subordinate Local Law	Proposed change	Finance and resourcing implications
<i>Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</i>	Remove prohibition of dogs on Mooloolaba Beach from beach access 192 – 195	Install large format beach access signage for dogs on leash at Beach Access 192, 193, 194, 195 – Total \$940.00 (\$235.00 each). Remove prohibition of dog signs from beach access 192 – 195 (@ \$100.00 each) total \$400.00. Total cost – \$1,340.00 The Response Services Branch will increase patrols in the area to minimise risk and ensure compliance with the on-lead requirements. Current resources will be reassigned from other patrols across the region and diverted to this area– no additional resourcing costs expected at this stage.

<p><i>Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</i></p>	<p>Include new dog off-leash area in walkway between La Balsa Park and beach access 196 with new stairs leading down to the beach area</p>	<p>Install 2 large format beach access signage at entry points to the beach (2 double sided 4 in total) @\$235.00 each – Total \$940.00.</p> <p>Design process for stairs – \$8,000 for the detailed design process including detailed cost estimates.</p> <p>Approx. cost for the construction of the stairs – \$35,000 - \$45,000 (approx.).</p> <p>Estimate cost between \$43,000 and \$53,000 (which includes the design process costs).</p> <p>Subject to agreement to proceed with the construction of the stairs by Division 4 Councillor John Connolly, this project will be funded through the Councillor’s discretionary funds.</p> <p>This amendment will require an intensive education program to be rolled out in the area over at least 4 weekends.</p> <p>Cost of resourcing for staff \$10,000 approx. (included for both areas).</p>
<p><i>Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</i></p>	<p>Include new dog off-leash area at Half Moon Bay adjacent to beach access 196 Point Cartwright.</p>	<p>Install 2 large double sided format beach access signage at entry points to the beach (2 (double sided) 4 in total) @ \$235.00 each – Total Cost \$940.00.</p> <p>This amendment will require an intensive education program to be rolled out in the area over at least 4 weekends.</p> <p>Cost of resourcing for staff \$10,000 approx. (included for both areas).</p>

<i>Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</i>	Construction of a new dog off-leash park at The Avenue Peregrian Springs – stage 1 completed.	Stage 1 has been initiated and funded through contributions from the divisional Councillor's discretionary funds. Stage 1 Costs - \$85,910
<i>Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</i>	Reconfiguration of the dog off-leash park at Petrie Park Nambour to include a new fenced dog off-leash park to be fenced at all times.	The upgrade and reconfiguration of the Petrie Park Dog Off-leash Area has been funded through contributions from the divisional Councillor's 2015/16 Discretionary Funds. Total Costs - \$50,000

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *An outstanding organisation*

Outcome:

We serve our community by providing this great service.

Operational Activity:

S31 - Governance - providing internal leadership, legal opinion, governance and audit functions ensuring legislative accountability, transparency and ethical obligations are supported.

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

The Divisional Councillors for the relevant areas have been consulted and were actively involved in the development of the proposed amendments.

- Division 4 Councillor John Connolly
- Division 9 Councillor Steve Robinson
- Division 10 Councillor Greg Rogerson

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation occurred with the following:

- Chief Legal Officer
- Manager Community Response
- Manager Corporate Governance
- Senior Technical Design Officer
- Coordinator Landscape Design Planning
- Coordinator Response Services

External Consultation

No external consultation has been undertaken in relation to this report at this stage.

Community Engagement

Council may at its discretion determine the amount of public consultation it undertakes before adopting the local law by resolution. A consultation period of no less than 28 days is considered good governance when proposing to make a local law.

Timeframes for consultation should be realistic and timed to engage with as many people as possible while allowing stakeholders enough time to provide a considered response. Best practice in community consultation indicates that consultation during peak holiday periods is less than ideal as the consultation may miss a large number of stakeholders who are away during the peak holiday periods. However if this is unavoidable, a further amount of time for consultation during this period is strongly recommended.

If Council approves the commencement of the local law making process to amend *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*, a community consultation strategy will be developed and will include the following:

- media releases
- targeted community consultation regarding the proposed removal of the prohibition of dogs from Mooloolaba Beach between beach accesses 192-195.
- targeted community consultation regarding the addition of more dog off-leash areas between La Balsa Park and the beach at Point Cartwright and the area known as Half Moon Bay, adjacent to beach access 196
- Council spotlight notifications in independent publications
- notification in Sunshine Coast Daily public notices
- Council spotlight radio notifications
- notification through Council's social media
- messaging on hold
- posters in customer contact centres and libraries
- static information displays in customer contact centres
- notification through Council's news centre
- information included on Council's website on 'Have your say' page.

As part of the assessment of the viability of a new dog off-leash park at Peregian Springs, targeted community consultation was undertaken by Parks and Gardens in consultation with the Division 9 Councillor Steve Robinson. The community in this area supported the development of a new dog off-leash area at the Avenue Park, Peregian Springs.

If Council agrees to proceed with commencement of the local law making process and the amendments to the subordinate local law, Council will undertake community consultation on the proposed changes. Community consultation forms part of our council's statutory local law making process and our commitment to meaningful community engagement which is a principle of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

PROPOSAL

Where any proposed change to the local law has not undergone extensive internal consultation with key stakeholders and Councillors, Corporate Governance prepares a preliminary report highlighting the proposed changes to Council for consideration and approval prior to starting the local law making process.

This report seeks Council's endorsement to commence with the local law making process to amend *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* to include the following amendments.

Mooloolaba Beach – Prohibition of Dogs

Under schedule 4 of *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*, all animals are prohibited from beaches and foreshores under the local governments control including bathing reserves unless a sign permits the animal. There are a number of beaches and foreshores across our region that do permit dogs. At present dogs are only permitted on a beach or foreshore either through signage or where it has been specified in the local laws as a designated dog off-leash area (which will also include signage in the area). There are currently 12 dog off-leash areas on a beach and foreshore across our region and this area covers approximately 13.5 km's of our coastline and foreshore.

During 2014/2015, Council commenced a local law review process which reviewed a number of operational and community issues. One of the issues that was highlighted in the review was dogs on Mooloolaba Beach. To make it clear in the local laws and to the community that dogs were prohibited on Mooloolaba Beach, it was recommended that a visual map representing the beach accesses where dogs were prohibited be included in the local laws (beach access 171-195) along with new visual signs along beach access 190-195. The request to make it clear to the community that dogs were prohibited from Mooloolaba Beach was raised by the previous Division 4 Councillor as a result of complaints and issues raised by community members, lifeguards, the Mooloolaba Spit Protection Association and the Mooloolaba Beach Surf Club.

Mooloolaba Beach is a high activity beach especially during the peak holiday season. Another consideration given to this decision was the nipper season which commences in September through to the end of April each year. The area between beach accesses 190 - 195 can have 100 plus juniors using the beach area for nippers and beach activities which are organised by the Mooloolaba Surf Club. Based on this being a high use beach area, it was determined that this area be highlighted in the local laws as a prohibited dog area and to include large visual signs along the beach access 190-195 to advise the community that dogs were prohibited at all times on Mooloolaba Beach.

In response to this request by the Division 4 Councillor, Council amended *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* at the Ordinary Meeting on 28 January 2016 to include a map illustrating the area where dogs were prohibited from the Mooloolaba Beach bathing reserve between beach accesses 171-195 (existing map attached).

Further to this, Response Services have carried out over 70 proactive patrols of Mooloolaba Beach between beach accesses 191 – 195 over the past 3 years. Council officers have found that there is very good compliance with the restrictions with only 11 incidents being recorded.

- 8 verbal warnings have been issued
- 3 infringement notices have been issued

Proposed change to the prohibition of dogs from Mooloolaba Beach

Recently Council has received complaints from some community members regarding the issue of dogs being prohibited from Mooloolaba Beach. In response to these complaints Division 4 Councillor, John Connelly has requested that the prohibition of dogs from Mooloolaba Beach be removed between beach accesses 192 to 195 (proposed new map attached). This proposed amendment will allow dogs on leash at all times on Mooloolaba Beach via signage between beach access 192 and 195.

In response to requests from the community, Councillor Connolly has also requested that a new dog off-leash at all times area, be included in the small beach between La Balsa Park and beach access 196. The inclusion of this new dog off-leash area on the walkway from La Balsa Park will include the construction of stairs leading onto the beach and large visual signs indicating the new dog off-leash at all times area.

In addition to this, Councillor Connolly has requested another dog off-leash at all times in the area known as Half Moon Bay adjacent to beach access 196 at Point Cartwright. This area is currently a timed dog off-leash area and it is proposed that a portion of this area be changed to a dog off-leash area at all times. This change will include the erection of large visual signs indicating the points where the dog off-leash area starts and finishes.

The existing maps and proposed new maps for these areas are attached to this report.

The Avenue, Peregian Springs – New dog off-leash park

In mid-2015 Parks and Gardens Branch were tasked with assessing demand and investigating potential locations for a dedicated dog off-leash area at Peregian Springs in consultation with Division 9 Councillor Steve Robinson.

Extensive site investigations were undertaken to identify suitable locations for the development of a dog off-leash area within the local parks network.

Following investigations two potential sites were identified (Option 1 – within the Avenue Park (adjacent to the existing car park) and Option 2 – on SCC and Unity Water land opposite The Avenue Park).

Community engagement was undertaken to gauge the community's support for the development of the dog off-leash area at Peregian Springs. The community's preference was to have the dog off-leash facility at Peregian Springs developed on the SCC and Unity Water land opposite the Avenue Park (new map attached).

The fenced off-leash area has now been completed and available for community use. The final stage in the process is to include the dog off-leash area in Schedule 6 of *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* and include a visual map representing the new area. New map for this area is attached to this report.

Petrie Park, Nambour – amendment of existing dog off-leash park

Following requests from the community and Division 10 Councillor Greg Rogerson, Parks and Gardens were asked to review maintenance, use and future planning for the dog off-leash area at Petrie Park.

Under the existing *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*, Petrie Park is a timed off-leash area. The review identified that the function of the dog exercise area needed to be improved to encourage dog park users away from exercising dogs on the hockey field. Following consultation with Councillor Rogerson and the Nambour Blue Demons Hockey Club, it was decided to separate the areas within the park to allow for hockey functions and create a new fenced dog off-leash area which is off-leash at all times.

Construction for the dog off-leash park has now been finalised and the final stage in the process is to amend the subordinate local law to include the dog off-leash area in Schedule 6 of *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* and include a visual map representing the new area.

The existing map and proposed new map for this area is attached to this report.

With regards to the above, Council's approval is sought to proceed with the local law making process to amend *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* to include the abovementioned proposed amendments.

Subject to Council's consideration, the process for making the proposed amendment subordinate local law is expected to be in accordance with the following timeline:

Table 2

Statutory Requirement	Proposed Activity	Date
Propose to make local law amendments	Prepare report to Council to propose to amend Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011.	OM 8 December 2016
Community Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • media releases • Council spotlight notifications in independent publications • targeted consultation with interest groups and other stakeholders • notification in Sunshine Coast Daily public notices • Council spotlight radio notifications • notification through Council's social media • messaging on hold • posters in customer contact centres and libraries • static information displays in customer contact centres • notification through Council's news centre • information included on Council's website on 'Have your say' page 	Immediately following the OM 8 December 2016 commence community consultation – to continue through January 2017 to accommodate the holiday period.
Council Website	All relevant information and documentation placed on and available through Council's website on " <i>Have your say</i> " page.	December 2016 and January 2017
Report to council to make the amendment local laws	Report to council to make the subordinate local law.	February 2017
Gazette Notice	Preparation of Government Gazette notice for publication in the Government Gazette once amendments are made by Council at the OM 23 February 2017.	March 2017
Consolidation of Local Laws	Present to Council the consolidated version of Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011.	March 2017

A further comprehensive review of Council's local laws will commence in mid-2017.

Legal

The proposal will be considered in accordance with the following legislation:

- Section 29-32 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 15 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and
- Sunshine Coast Council's suite of Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws
- Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017

Policy

This report presents no new policy implications for Council.

Risk

Risks associated with the making of amendment local laws are managed by:

- ensuring effective implementation of the amendment local laws and
- utilising robust systems and processes to monitor the performance of the local laws.

Previous Council Resolution**Council Resolution (OM16/4) 28 January 2016**

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Making of Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2016, Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2016 and Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016"*
- (b) *in accordance with Council's 'Process for Making Local Laws' adopted on 1 June 2010, pursuant to section 29 of the Local Government Act 2009, Council hereby resolves to make:*
 - (i) *Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2016 with the following amendments following consideration of public submissions and the State interests check:*
 1. *in section 13 (Amendment of sch 1 (Dictionary)), in subsection (2) add "(Cwlth)" after the citation of the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998*
 2. *in section 13 (Amendment of sch 1 (Dictionary)), add a new subsection (10) to amend the definition of life-saving club by replacing 'Department of Community Safety' with 'Queensland Fire and Emergency Services'*
 3. *in section 14 (Amendment of sch 2 (Prescribed activities)), in subsection (6) remove the reference to paragraph (q), which will have the effect of retaining the current prescribed activity for 'riding a horse in a local government controlled area'*
 - (ii) *Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2016 with the following amendments following consideration of public submissions and the State interests check:*
 1. *in section 7 (Amendment of sch 5 (Exclusion of animals from specific public places)), in subsection (1) insert new rows in the table as follows:*

park/reserve	Quota/Eleanor Shipley Park, Moffat Beach	all animals	SLL 2.5.13
park/reserve	Graham Stewart Park, Currimundi	all animals	SLL 2.5.14

2. *in section 7 (Amendment of sch 5 (Exclusion of animals from specific public places)), in subsection (2), substitute a new Map SLL 2.5.9 for Kings Beach (tabled), which illustrates the paths where dogs can be taken on a lead through the Kings Beach prohibited animal area*
 3. *in section 7 (Amendment of sch 5 (Exclusion of animals from specific public places)), in subsection (3) after Map SLL 2.5.12, insert a new Map SLL 2.5.13 for Quota/Eleanor Shipley Park (tabled) and a new Map SLL 2.5.14 for Graham Stewart Park (tabled)*
 4. *in section 8 (Amendment of sch 6 (Dog off-leash areas), renumber the subsections as there are currently two subsections (4)*
 5. *in section 8 (Amendment of sch 6 (Dog off-leash areas)), add a new subsection (7) to substitute a new Map SLL2.6.31 for Ridgehaven Park (tabled) to illustrate a new fenced section of the dog off-leash area*
 6. *in section 8 (Amendment of sch 6 (Dog off-leash areas)), in subsection (8) substitute a new Map SLL2.6.35 (tabled) to more clearly illustrate the boundaries of the dog off-leash area and prohibited animal area at Moffatt Beach*
 7. *in section 10 (Amendment of sch 2 (Restricted activities for local government controlled areas, facilities, infrastructure or roads), remove the second row of the table, which restricts riding of horses on local government controlled areas and roads, because this issue will now be referred for discussion at the June 2016 Ordinary Meeting*
 8. *in section 12 (Amendment of sch 2 (Declaration of off-street regulate parking areas)), in subsection (2):*
 - o *substitute a new Map SLL5.2.37 (tabled), which includes a red mark to indicate the area's location within the broader Sunshine Coast region*
 - o *substitute a new Map SLL5.2.46 (tabled) to replace the map title 'Moffat Beach' with 'Battery Hill/Dicky Beach/Moffat Beach'*
 - o *substitute a new Map SLL5.2.48 (tabled), which includes identifying road features and a red mark to indicate the area's location within the broader Sunshine Coast region*
 9. *in section 13 (Amendment of sch 3 (Persons who may be issued with a parking permit)), remove subsection (1) creating residential parking permits for Sippy Downs Regulated Parking Area, and remove Map SLL5.3.2 delineating this new parking permit area*
- (iii) *Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016 with the following amendments following consideration of public submissions and the State interests check:*
1. *in schedule 7 (Establishment or occupation of a temporary home), section 5 (Conditions that must be imposed on approvals), insert the following subsections:*
 - '(1) *A condition that must be imposed on all approvals is that the approval holder must install photoelectric smoke alarms outside any sleeping areas in the temporary home.*

- (2) *However, the condition in subsection (1) does not need to be imposed on the approval if a condition covering smoke alarms is contained in a development approval that applies to the temporary home.'*
2. *In schedule 18 (Carrying out works on a road or interfering with a road or its operation), section 3, after each of the terms "domestic work", "commercial work" and "other work", add a footnote stating 'See the local government's website for further information about this category of application'*
- (c) *note that Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2016, Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2016 and Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016 contain anti-competitive provisions, which have been subjected to a public interest review and found to be in the overall public interest and*
- (d) *authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary administrative and formatting amendments to the document as part of the final proof reading and cross referencing.*

Related Documentation

- *Local Government Act 2009 and Regulations*
- *Sunshine Coast Regional Council Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws 2011*
- *State Government Guidelines for Making Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws*
- *Corporate Plan 2014-2019.*

Critical Dates

It is important that Council gives consideration to this matter as soon as possible to allow for the local law making process to commence.

Implementation

Following consideration of this report, actions relevant to the recommendation will be implemented and include:

- *Proposal to make the local laws (December 2016)*
- *Community Consultation (December 2016)*
- *Summary of Submissions (January 2017)*
- *Making of Local Law (February 2017)*
- *Notification to the Minister (February 2017)*
- *Gazette Notice (March 2016)*
- *Certification by the Chief Executive Officer, Sunshine Coast Council*
- *Preparation of the website notice on local law change*
- *Consolidation of Local Laws (March 2017).*

8.3.2 DELEGATION TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER - SUSTAINABLE PLANNING ACT DELEGATION

File No:	Statutory Meeting
Author:	Manager Corporate Governance Corporate Services Department
Appendices:	App A - 2009-35 (v5) Sustainable Planning delegation259 App B - 2009-35 (v6) Sustainable Planning delegation265

PURPOSE

This report is presented to council in accordance with section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*. The report presents for consideration an amendment to the Sustainable Planning Act Delegation of Authority 2009-35 (v6).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Delegations are the process by which the Council delegates local government powers under relevant legislation to implement and enforce legislation, standards and requirements. Delegations are necessary to maintain operational effectiveness, to ensure processes are more timely and streamlined and to ensure council officers are educated and operating under the correct legislative provisions.

At the Ordinary Meeting held on 16 June 2016, council resolved to amend the Sustainable Planning Act (SPA) delegation 2009-35 (v5). This amendment included two new administrative conditions which were added as an internal control mechanism for delegated officers exercising various powers under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*. One of the conditions has proved to cause some operational delays:

The particular condition:

14. *The delegated officer may exercise the powers delegated under paragraph 7 and paragraph 11 of this delegation subject to consultation with council's Chief Legal Officer*

has resulted in some operational challenges with respect to the requirement to consult with Council's Chief Legal Officer each time a show cause or enforcement notice is issued.

This report presents for council's consideration the proposal to amend paragraph 14 of the delegation criteria of the Sustainable Planning Act delegation 2009-35 (v5) to resolve current operational challenges.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer - Sustainable Planning Act delegation"**
- (b) remove delegation 2009-35 (v5) (Appendix A) and**
- (c) adopt Delegation 2009-35 (v6) (Appendix B).**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The cost of preparation of the delegation has been met through existing core budget provisions within the Corporate Governance Branch.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *An outstanding organisation*
Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service
Operational Activity: S31 - Governance - providing internal leadership, legal opinion, governance and audit functions ensuring legislative accountability, transparency and ethical obligations are supported

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

There has been no consultation with the Portfolio Councillor in relation to this report as it relates to an internal administrative activity.

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation occurred with the following officers:

- Chief Executive Officer
- Chief Legal Officer
- Manager Development Services
- Manager Corporate Governance
- Coordinator Governance Process and Policy

External Consultation

There has been no external consultation undertaken in relation to this report as it relates to an internal administrative activity.

Community Engagement

No community engagement was required for the preparation of this report as it relates to an internal administrative activity.

PROPOSAL

In accordance with legislative requirements, council undertakes regular review of all delegations of authority and their operations.

The recent amendment in June 2016 to the Sustainable Planning Act Delegation (2009-35(v5) administrative criteria has highlighted some operational challenges for delegated officers.

The addition of paragraph 14 to the delegation criteria section of the delegation was intended to ensure delegated officers consulted with council's Chief Legal Officer, specifically with regards to initiating any legal proceedings. Paragraph 14 is detailed below –

14. The delegated officer may exercise the powers delegated under paragraph 7 and paragraph 11 of this delegation subject to consultation with council's Chief Legal Officer.

Paragraph 7 and 11 of the SPA delegation are also relevant and delegate the following powers –

7. To exercise the powers of the local government under Chapter 7 of the Act, except for the power contemplated in section 590(7) of the Act to give an enforcement

notice ordering the demolition of a building, but otherwise without limitation, including the following:

- (a) to conduct an appeal or proceeding in which the local government is a party;
- (b) to initiate a legal proceeding, including without limitation, a proceeding in the Magistrates Court, Planning and Environment Court or Court of Appeal;
- (c) to give a show cause notice or an enforcement notice.

11. To exercise the powers of the local government under the *Local Government Act 2009*, to support the local government's powers and functions under the Act including, but without limitation, to the following:

- (a) act for the local government in legal proceedings including the authority to:
 - (i) give instructions and act as the authorised agent for the local government including, for the purposes of section 41 of the *Planning and Environment Court Rules 2010*, act in the capacity of the local government as an 'active party' on the authority to:
 - 1. settle the issues; or
 - 2. make a recommendation to the local government about settling the issues;
 - (ii) effect substituted service; and
 - (iii) sign all documents for the local government; and
- (b) negotiate agreements, give instructions and sign all documents for the local government to give effect to any agreement.

The inclusion of paragraph 14 now requires all delegated officers to consult with council's Chief Legal Officer when they exercise the powers under paragraph 7 and 11 this also includes instances where a delegated officer needs to issue a show cause notice or enforcement notice under clause 7 (c).

In daily operations, the Development Services Branch issues many Show Cause Notices which are no more than a request for an explanation and do not constitute legal proceedings of themselves. There is also a provision in the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* that allows Councils to go straight to an Enforcement Notice where there is a matter of public danger. Development Services specifically use this provision for breaches of swimming pool fencing safety where council need to demand that pool fencing be rectified quickly. As these notices are often related to safety matters or serious breaches of planning approvals, they are often required to be issued on the spot. Given the requirements of paragraph 14, it is no longer possible to issue these notices on the spot without first consulting with council's Chief Legal Officer.

Further to this, paragraph 11 (b) relates to the ability for delegated officers to support any legal proceeding by giving technical instructions, negotiating agreements and signing documents in legal matters. As this is a technical and operational function it is recommended that this power not require consultation with council's Chief Legal Officer as it may limit the delegated officer's ability to respond in a timely fashion.

Therefore, council's consideration is sought to amend paragraph 14 to include the following –

14. The delegated officer may exercise the powers delegated under paragraphs 7(a), 7(b) and 11(a) of this delegation subject to consultation with council's Chief Legal Officer or Council's in-house Solicitor.

As paragraph 7 (a), 7 (b) and 11 (a) of the SPA delegation relates to legal proceedings, it remains the recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer that delegated officers are required to consult with council's Chief Legal Officer or Council's in-house Solicitor (where the Chief Legal Officer is unavailable).

The removal of the reference to paragraph 7 (c) in paragraph 14 will ensure officers are able to respond swiftly where a show cause notice or enforcement notice needs to be issued. In addition the removal of reference to 11 (b) will allow delegated officers to provide information and support council's legal services in instances where legal proceedings have been initiated, or to sign Infrastructure Agreements for development applications.

Legal

Council's Chief Legal Officer assisted with the preparation of the amendment to the Sustainable Planning delegation 2009-35 (v5) to ensure legal validity.

Policy

The policy titled "*Delegations – Guiding Principles*" is to be adhered to in the exercise of the Sustainable Planning delegation 2009-35 (v5) and all delegations delegated by council to the Chief Executive Officer.

Risk

The organisation could be exposed to risk if limitations in delegations delay officer's ability to respond swiftly in situation where there is a risk to community safety.

Further to this, mitigate any possible risk in the general exercise of all delegations, delegated officers are informed and trained on their delegated responsibilities and provided with the policy "*Delegations – Guiding Principles*" to ensure they are aware of their responsibility. The responsibility lies with Directors and Managers alike to ensure officers are aware of their roles and responsibilities as delegated officers.

Previous Council Resolution

Council Resolution (OM16/98) - Ordinary Meeting 16 June 2016

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer - Section 257 Local Government Act 2009"
- (b) adopt Delegation 2016-73 (V1) Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer (Appendix A)
- (c) adopt Sustainable Planning Act delegation 2009-35 (V5) (Appendix B)
- (d) note that all existing specific delegations of authority to the Chief Executive Officer are retained and
- (e) authorise the Mayor to put in place with the Chief Executive Officer, an operational practice guideline associated with the implementation of Delegation 2016-73 (v1) and Delegation 2009-35 (V5).

Related Documentation

The *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* can be accessed and reviewed at <http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au>:

Critical Dates

It is important that council gives consideration to this report as soon as possible to allow the delegations to be implemented.

Implementation

Implementation action will include:

- Updating council's delegation register
- Linking s259 delegations of authority
- Delegated officers advised and notified accordingly

8.3.3 SEPTEMBER 2016 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

File No:	Financial Reports
Author:	Coordinator Financial Services Corporate Services Department
Attachments:	Att 1 - September 2016 Financial Performance Report279

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 September 2016 in terms of the operating result and delivery of the capital program.

The operating result at 30 September 2016 shows a positive variance of \$5 million compared to the forecast position.

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

September 2016	Current Budget \$000	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Operating Revenue	418,433	161,397	164,577	3,179	2.0
Operating Expenses	391,493	93,333	91,516	(1,817)	1.9
Operating Result	26,940	68,064	73,061	4,997	7.3

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

As at 30 September 2016, \$40.9 million (15.5%) of Council's \$263.7 million 2016/17 Capital Works Program was financially expended.

The core Council Capital Program is on track with an actual spend of \$25.3 million, which is 2.9% ahead of forecast.

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

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

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

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are no finance and resourcing implications from this report.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *An outstanding organisation*
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 or 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 operating result at 30 September 2016 shows a positive variance of \$5.0 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 September 2016 of \$164.6 million shows a positive variance of \$3.2 million.

Table 2: Substantial Revenue variances as at 30 September 2016

Operating Revenue Large Variances	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Net Rates and Utility Charges	125,355	126,800	1,445	1.2
Fees and Charges	18,291	19,364	1,074	5.9
Other Revenue	2,690	3,384	694	25.8

Net Rates and Utility Charges

Of the favourable variance of \$1.4 million, \$475,000 relates to higher than anticipated growth and year to date profiling for the first rates run. Property numbers grew by 1.3% between the January 2016 and June 2016 rate runs. The full year budgeted growth is 1.9%.

Fees and Charges

Fees and charges revenue of \$19.4 million, is \$1.1 million ahead of year to date budget. Significant variances include:

- \$575,000 relates to increased revenues at the Sunshine Coast Holiday Parks, overall Holiday Parks are favourable to budget \$566,000.

- \$313,000 relates to development service revenue ahead of budget, with volumes 0.6% ahead of the same time last year. Growth in the development area is mixed, with non-plumbing application volumes down 14% and lot approval up 5% on last year.
- \$120,000 across community response branch

Other Revenue

Other revenue has exceeded the year to date budget by \$694,000, 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 \$180,000
- Additional grant revenue received in community relations of \$150,000, which will be recognised with offsetting expenditure in Budget Review 2.

Operating Expenses

Year to date expenditure as at 30 September 2016 of \$60.6 million shows a positive variance of \$2.7 million.

Table 3: Substantial Expenditure variances as at 30 September 2016

Operating Expenditure Large Variances	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Employee Costs	30,242	30,788	547	1.8
Materials and Services	37,535	34,840	(2,695)	(7.2)
Finance Costs	2,544	3,017	473	18.6

Employee Costs

As at 30 September 2016 employee costs were above budget by \$547,000 or 1.8%. \$86,000 of this variance relates to the operating component of capital projects. These projects are budgeted against materials and services, however delivery is through a combination of internal and external resources.

A further \$70,000 relates to lower than budgeted capitalisation of labour. There are some timesheets that have not been submitted and therefore this could be a timing difference.

The remaining variance is in part due to higher than anticipated overtime and the organisation not achieving the 3% vacancy rate.

Materials and Services

As at 30 September 2016, materials and services costs were below budget by \$2.7 million. The variance is in line with the usual trend for the early part of the financial year, with further work to be completed on profiling budgets and initiating projects.

Finance Costs

As a result of the recent audit by Queensland Audit Office (QAO), finance costs relating to the Solar Farm Project are to be expensed. This will result in an increase of \$1.2 million for finance costs for the year. This change will be included in Budget Review 2.

Capital Revenue

Capital revenues are \$26.3 million favourable to the year to date current budget. Cash contributions are ahead of budget by \$3.2 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 in part due to additional resources in the asset accounting team expediting the constructed asset write-on process.

However it is also an indication of another strong year of assets being contributed by developers, and will be analysed and adjusted as part of the Budget Review 2 process.

Table 4: Capital revenue variances as at 30 September 2016

Capital Revenue	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Capital Contributions - Cash	5,615	8,828	3,213	57.2
Contributed Assets	15,000	38,169	23,169	154.5

Capital Expenditure

As at 30 September 2016, \$40.9 million (15.5%) of Council's \$263.7 million 2016/17 Capital Works Program was financially expended.

The core Council Capital Program is on track with an actual spend of \$25.3 million, which is 2.9% ahead of forecast.

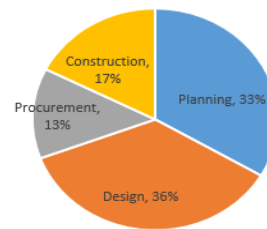
Table 5: Capital expenditure variances by program as at 30 September 2016

Capital Works Program	Forecast Budget \$000	YTD Forecast Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance	% Variance on YTD budget
Aerodromes	372	7	25	18	268.5
Buildings and Facilities	10,072	2,303	2,568	265	11.5
Coast and Canals	1,375	223	238	16	7.0
Divisional Allocations	4,101	119	290	171	143.7
Environmental Assets	4,628	540	1,404	864	160.0
Fleet	3,000	45	3	(42)	(93.2)
Holiday Parks	2,279	781	665	(116)	(14.8)
Information Technology	3,007	600	531	(68)	(11.4)
Parks and Gardens	14,290	4,015	4,289	274	6.8
Quarries	674	-	105	105	-
Stormwater	4,927	594	739	145	24.4
Strategic Land and Commercial Properties	7,867	2,477	3,336	859	34.7
Sunshine Coast Airport	5,746	1,206	914	(292)	(24.2)
Transportation	56,553	9,414	8,212	(1,201)	(12.8)
Waste	12,680	2,271	1,975	(295)	(13.0)
Total SCC Core Capital Program	131,571	24,593	25,295	702	2.9
Corporate Major Projects	21,646	13	26	13	107.9
Maroochydore City Centre - Council delivery	11,519	2,827	3,393	566	20.0
Maroochydore City Centre - SunCentral delivery	41,289	1,714	541	(1,173)	(68.4)
Solar Farm	32,408	11,866	11,458	(408)	(3.4)
Sunshine Coast Airport Runway	25,223	66	230	164	249.0
Total Other Capital Program	132,084	16,485	15,648	(837)	(5.1)
TOTAL	263,655	41,077	40,943	(135)	(0.3)

Table 6: Projects by status

Project summary by Job status (SCC Base only)	Number of Capital Jobs	%	Current Budget \$000	%
Not Started	361	36.5%	28,397	21.6%
Works in Progress	510	51.5%	98,365	74.8%
Complete	109	11.0%	4,320	3.3%
On Hold	10	1.0%	490	0.4%
Total	990		131,571	

Work In Progress by Phase

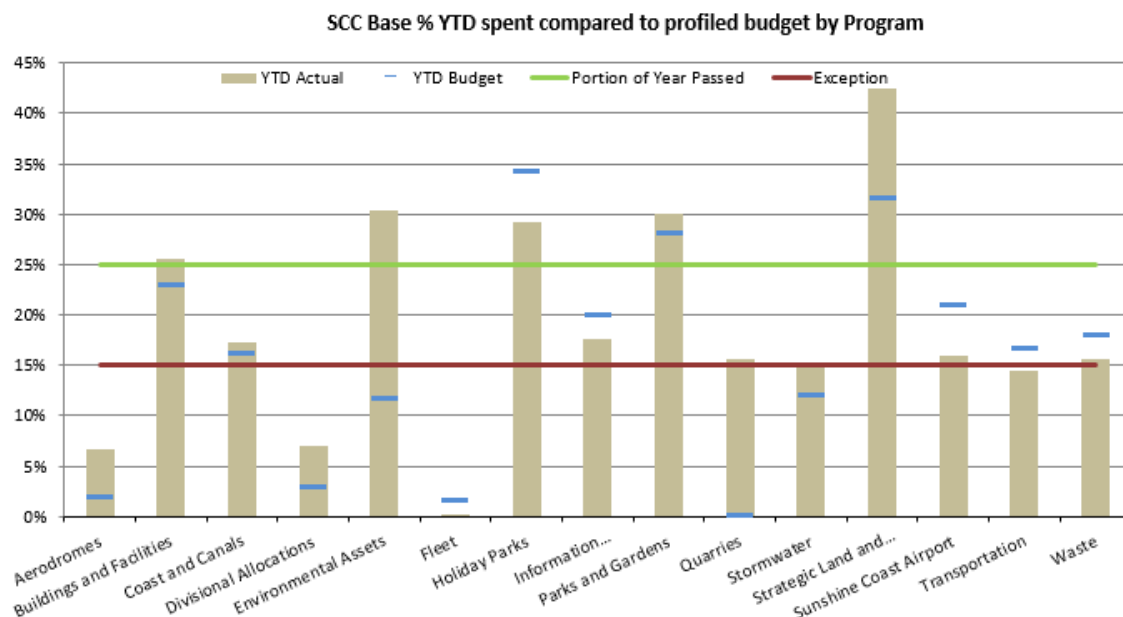


The targeted capital completion rate for 2016/17 is 81.3%. This is due to a number of multi-year projects and whole of region accounts.

At the end of September 109 jobs were in a completed status, which is a good indication that the 2015/16 projects which were carried over in Budget Review 1 are being completed.

Additionally 510 jobs are in a work in progress status, and the additional graph indicates which phase the WIP jobs are up to. This is additional information that is being captured by the new Project on-line system.

Table 7: Capital Exceptions Graph



Aerodromes

The aerodromes program is scheduled for works to occur in the second half of the year. Works are currently ahead of the budgeted schedule.

Fleet

The first major purchase for the fleet program is scheduled for January 2017. There are a large number of smaller plant acquisitions planned for the second half of the financial year, which will include trucks, mowers, graders and boats.

Transportation

Coming in just under the exception line, the transportation program is currently \$1.6 million behind forecast budget. This variance is coming from the reseals and rehabilitation sub program, which is \$1.5 million behind budget. Two contracts for the reseat program were awarded in September, with major works to begin in October 2016.

Investment Performance

- All investment parameters remain within the guidelines established by the Investment Policy.
- For the month ending 30 September 2016 Council had \$375.7 million cash (excluding Trust Fund) with an average interest rate of 2.98%, being 1.25% above benchmark. This is compared to the same period last year with \$345.3 million cash (excluding Trust Fund) where the average interest rate was 3.44%, being 0.84% 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.
- The Cash in Council's ledger as at 30 September 2016 was only \$367 million, due to some late deposits from Unitywater not being processed until the October period.

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 CONONDALE MEMORIAL RECREATION PARK MASTER PLAN 2016-2031****File No:** 101116**Authors:** Sport and Recreation Officer
Team Leader Sports Planning and Development
Community Services Department**Appendices:** App A - Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan -
November 2016..... Pg 197 / 299

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek council's endorsement of the *Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan 2016-2031* (Appendix A).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the *Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan 2016 – 2031* (the Master Plan) is to provide a long term vision (15 year horizon) for the Conondale Memorial Recreation Park (the Park) consistent with community demand and the needs of clubs/organisations within this locality and the wider region.

The key recommendations of the Master Plan include:

- The retention of the Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club as a tenant of the site
- Enhanced recreational opportunities (i.e. access, shelter, seating etc.) adjacent to Elaman Creek to support passive community use
- Improved community access to the Park and creek area
- Improved road access to the site
- Inclusion of signage to acknowledge the site's historical significance and
- Improved wayfinding throughout the site.

Throughout the process of developing the Master Plan, consideration has been given to:

- on-site constraints and opportunities
- policy positions and recommendations within key council plans and strategies
- community needs
- population projections and
- emerging sport and recreation trends and issues both locally and regionally.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan 2016-2031”**
- (b) adopt the “Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan 2016-2031” (Appendix A) and**
- (c) note that any future allocations towards the implementation of the Master Plan will be assessed and prioritised against other projects in councils 10 year Capital Works Program, contributions by users and the community and successful applications for external funding.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

It is acknowledged that the cost of implementing all Master Plan recommendations may be beyond the capacity of council to fund in its own right. The adoption of the Master Plan provides relevant stakeholders, community groups and council with a strategic direction to implement improvements in a clear and focused way, and provides a foundation for grant applications and facility planning.

The indicative-only capital cost of short, medium and long term recommendations within the Master Plan are as follows:

A significant proportion of the short term capital funding proposed relates to vehicular access and egress improvements to the site.

Ongoing operational expenditure to maintain the non-tenured portion of the Park, including slashing, weed control and mowing, is estimated to be approximately \$20,000-\$25,000 per annum.

\$100,000 in project funding was allocated in council's capital works program for the planning and development of the *Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan 2016 - 2031*. Actual expenses were \$96,085 (including GST) not including staff resources.

Future allocations towards the implementation of the Master Plan will be assessed and prioritised against other projects in councils 10 year Capital Works Program. Council's 10 year forward Capital Works Program does not currently provide any allocations to the Park.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>A strong community</i>
Outcome:	2.1 - Safe and healthy communities
Operational Activity:	2.1.3.6 - Progress open space network planning including planning for recreational activities and identify options for difficult to locate sports.

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

- Councillor O'Pray - Portfolio Councillor for Tourism, Events and Sport
- Councillor Rogerson - Councillor Assisting on Tourism, Events and Sport

Internal Consultation

- Councillor McKay, Division 5, Divisional Councillor
- Councillor Rogerson, Division 10
- Councillor O'Pray, Division 8
- Coordinator Sport and Community Venues, Community Facilities and Planning
- Solicitor, Legal Services
- Manager, Property Management
- Environment Operations Project Officer, Environment Operations
- Coordinator Parks Operations and Contracts, Parks and Gardens

- Open Space Coordinator, Parks and Gardens
- Coordinator Biodiversity and Waterways, Environment and Sustainability Policy
- Coordinator Open Space and Social Policy, Environment and Sustainability Policy
- Coordinator Traffic and Transportation, Transport Infrastructure Management.

External Consultation

- The Honorable Andrew Powell MP
- Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR)
- Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM)
- Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing (DNPSR)
- Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club Incorporated
- Motorcycling Queensland
- Conondale State School and Parents and Citizens' Association
- Conondale Hall Committee Incorporated
- Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee
- Barung Landcare
- Conondale Bush Racing Association
- Conondale Rural Fire Brigade
- Conondale Valley Association
- Conondale Pool Committee
- Maleny Trail Riders Incorporated
- Kenilworth First Response Incorporated
- Crystal Waters community representatives
- Past Conondale Memorial Recreation Park trustees
- Conondale community members, including adjacent property owners of the Park.

Community Engagement

In order to capture community views and to allow the community adequate opportunities to learn more about the intent of the master planning process, the following community engagement exercises have been undertaken:

- Community survey;
- Letterbox mail out to 667 local residents and businesses promoting the Master Plan and community survey opportunity;
- 19 individual meetings with stakeholders and community members; and
- Public review and feedback session ('Meet in the Park').

A total of 30 written submissions were received, including from the following groups:

- Conondale Valley Association
- Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee; and
- Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club.

Common themes raised in the final round of community consultation include:

- Strong support for increased community use for events
- Community seeking access to the site, including creek areas for passive recreation use outside of event times
- The intensity of use at the Park for motorcycle activities and events should not increase;
- Improved traffic, access and car parking arrangements
- Protection of environmental areas, including existing natural areas such as the Upper Mary River South catchment
- Broad community support for the retention of the Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club as a user of the site
- No one group should be responsible for the management of and access to the entire site;
- The Park should be recognised as a war memorial and

- A small number of the community focussed on the return of a community trusteeship.

It is acknowledged that there are some community members who remain dissatisfied with the Master Plan. The primary reasons given for this dissatisfaction include:

- Council being appointed by the Queensland Government as trustee to the Park
- Environmental concerns
- The ability of council as trustee to monitor the proposed 12 Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club events per annum
- Protection of existing toilets
- Perceived lack of community access to the Park and
- Perceived biased study methodology and process.

Conversely, there is broad support for the Master Plan and its recommendations from many stakeholders and community members.

All submissions received have been provided a response from the appointed consultant or council officers either acknowledging how the Master Plan has been amended following the submission or detailing the reasoning for the relevant recommendation.

Following this review period, plans were refined and consolidated into the *Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan 2016 – 2031* as presented.

PROPOSAL

The Conondale Memorial Recreation Park is located at 1156 Maleny-Kenilworth Road, Elaman Creek, approximately 4.8km from the Conondale Township. The Park is a multi-purpose recreation site that supports a range of community and sporting activities. The local Conondale community have expressed a strong connection to the Park dating back to its gazettal in May 1928.

The Park was formerly held in trust by the Conondale Memorial Sports and Recreation Reserve Incorporated. On 2 September 2014, in accordance with section 51 of the *Land Act 1994*, the State Minister of the time made a decision to remove the former trustees of the site.

On 4 December 2014, the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) sent formal correspondence to Sunshine Coast Council requesting council consider accepting trusteeship of the Park. On 18 December 2014, council officers accepted trusteeship of the Park under delegation.

Trustee lease number 706496389 remains registered on part of the land to the Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club Incorporated (SCMC) until 24 February 2020. The Trustee lease allows the SCMC to hold a maximum of 12 motocross events per annum in order to preserve the amenity of the Park.

From a strategic planning perspective, council notes and supports the value of the Park as a state level facility for motocross, trail bike riding, trials and enduro disciplines. The remaining parcel of the Park remains unencumbered as open space for broad community use.

At Council's Ordinary Meeting held 10 December 2015, council affirmed acceptance of trusteeship of the Conondale Memorial Recreation Park and allocated funding to enable the preparation of a master plan for the site. Otium Planning were subsequently engaged to undertake a master plan giving consideration to community, sport and recreation uses of the Park for local residents and the wider community.

The purpose of the Conondale Memorial Recreation Master Plan (the Plan) is to determine:

- how the site will contribute long term (over a 15 year horizon) to sporting and community provision for the Conondale locality and wider region

- priority facility requirements based on current and future sporting and community needs (over a 15 year horizon) in terms of active participants, spectators and administrators
- appropriate Environmental Management Planning and actions including assessment of the environmental values of the site including flora, fauna and water and
- the most appropriate levels and usage for the site and future requirements for facilities and infrastructure (over a 15 year horizon) consistent with community demand, the needs of clubs/organisations within the surrounding area and the wider region.

The Master Plan considers:

- Functionality, configuration, usage and capacity of the site
- Current character of the landscape
- Needs across various sports and recreation uses, including current and future tenants
- Emerging trends and issues
- Priorities, levels of service and resources
- Catchment area and population demographic demands (present and future)
- Events held at the site
- Car parking and traffic movement/ management requirements
- Community expectations and needs
- The current and known future realities of the economic, social, environmental and legislative context
- Alignment with relevant council plans, policies and guidelines
- Relevant planning constraints and opportunities, including environmental, flood immunity, land zonings, development approval requirements, proposed infrastructure improvements, surrounding site etc.
- Other regional, district and local level facilities within the region and surrounding areas and
- Other users on surrounding land parcels.

The development of the Master Plan has involved an extensive review process to ensure alignment with community needs, population projections, statutory policies and regulations, whilst also recognising Council's key strategy positions.

Recommendations identified in the Environment Management Plan (EMP) will be implemented in partnership between the Sunshine Coast Council and the Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club. It is the tenure holder's responsibility to implement and fund environmental priorities identified within the EMP. Obligations to comply with the EMP will be included in future lease agreements between Sunshine Coast Council and the Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club.

Key recommendations of the Master Plan include:

- The retention of the Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club as a tenant of the site
- Enhanced recreational opportunities (i.e. access, shelter, seating etc.) adjacent to Elaman Creek to support passive community use
- Improved community access to the Park and creek
- Improved road access to the site
- Inclusion of signage to acknowledge the site's historical significance and
- Improved wayfinding throughout the site.

As a result of feedback obtained from the final round of consultation, and consideration of the key findings from the earlier background research and consultation, the following changes have been incorporated into the Final Master Plan:

- Realignment of the western internal access road in order to minimise intrusion over the previous race track positioning

- Acknowledgement that the decision to proceed and the final location of the proposed new Anzac Memorial should be undertaken via consultation between Council and the Conondale community
- New recommendation for the future of the existing toilet block to be determined following a condition assessment of this facility
- Provide clarification within any renewed tenure agreement on club track availability and access prior to and at the conclusion of the 12 permissible events per annum
- Expanded tenure arrangements to incorporate the requirement of SCMC not to unreasonably withhold approval for community events to expand onto the leased area where they meet all other approval criteria and
- Confirmation that camping is permitted during and for event purposes only.

Legal

Proposed site upgrades and any new boundary alignments will need to be considered in line with current and future tenure agreements.

Policy

The *Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011* and the *Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2011-2026* form council's policy position on sport and active recreation for the region. Both documents have been reviewed and used to guide the recommendations of the Master Plan.

Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011

The Open Space Strategy supports the protection and acquisition of the Conondale Memorial Recreation Park as a State level facility for specific purpose sports, including motocross.

The Open Space Strategy also provides the following open space category definition for the Park:

- Type: Sport and recreation
- Category: Specific purpose sports.
- Definition: Council controlled or managed open space that provides for specific sports that have highly specialised requirements or are difficult to locate. Includes: golf courses, bowls clubs, water ski parks, and motorsports facilities.

Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2011 - 2026

The adoption of the *Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2011-2026* provides recommendations including:

- Undertake a master plan for the Conondale Memorial Sport and Recreation Reserve (Green Park), Conondale.
- Progressively implement the Conondale Memorial Sport and Recreation Reserve Master Plan.
- Progressively implement the recommendations of the Difficult to Locate Sports Study 2009-2028 relevant to Locality 38 (Reeseville-Conondale-Kenilworth):
 - protect the existing use of Green Park as a Motorcycle (off road) Precinct through the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014.

Risk

- Failure to adequately plan for the Park's current and future uses will likely result in ongoing community disharmony.
- Failure to maintain an adequate level of service for sport and active recreation facilities may result in increased future costs and lead to community dissatisfaction.
- Master planning reduces the risk of ad-hoc development, which may be to the detriment of future service provision and uses.

- The raising of community expectations without adequate funding options available to implement recommendations could result in community dissatisfaction.

Previous Council Resolution**Open Space Strategy – Special Meeting 7 March, 2011**

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled “Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011”;*
- adopt the Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011 (Appendix A) to guide Council and the community in future open space planning, management and decision making, subject to consideration in annual budget processes;*
- request the Chief Executive Officer to develop a detailed implementation and staging plan based on Councils’ long term financial model and other revenue sources, for future consideration by Council; and*
- thank the 47 submitters for their contribution to the preparation of the Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011.*

Sport and Active Recreation Plan – Ordinary Meeting 16 June 2016

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled “Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan 2016-2031” and*
- endorse the 2016 edition of the Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2011 – 2026 (Appendix A).*

Difficult to Locate Sports Study 2009-2028 – Special Meeting 29 October 2009

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled “Difficult-to-Locate Sports Study 2009-2028”;*
- adopt the Draft Sunshine Coast Difficult-to-Locate Sports Study 2009-2028 (Appendix A as amended) as a working draft, noting that further work is required to identify feasibility and viability of meeting Difficult-to-Locate Sports needs not currently being provided for; and*
- request the Chief Executive Officer to prepare an appropriate implementation plan for Council's consideration taking into account the objectives of the corporate plan and Council's ability to fund or obtain funding for a number of the actions contained in the working draft.*

Conondale Memorial Sports and Recreation Reserve – Ordinary Meeting 10 December 2015

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Master Plan 2016-2031"*
- affirm its acceptance of Trusteeship of the Conondale Memorial Sports and Recreation Reserve*
- request the Chief Executive Officer prepare a Master Plan for the Conondale Memorial Sports and Recreation Reserve*

- (d) *request the Chief Executive Officer prepare the above Master Plan with a key principle of ensuring continued adherence with Council policy, namely the Difficult to Locate Sports Study 2009-2028, the Open Space Strategy 2011 and the Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2011-2026, all of which articulate the protection of the existing reserve as a Motorcycle (off road) Precinct*
- (e) *request the Chief Executive Officer prepare the above Master Plan with a key principle of ensuring continued and appropriate access for the community to the Reserve*
- (f) *refer an amount of \$100,000 to Council's Budget Review 2 process to enable the preparation of a Master Plan for the Conondale Memorial Sports and Recreation Reserve*
- (g) *endorse a comprehensive stakeholder and community engagement program, inclusive of all parties and individuals who have expressed an interest in the future management of the Reserve, or who do so in the immediate future and*
- (h) *until such time that the above master planning activity has been completed and presented to Council for consideration, continue management of activities at the Reserve as per the status quo, with access to the Council Reserve to be in accordance with Council's local laws and event permit system, and the leased area managed in accordance with the lease currently held by the Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club.*

Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Draft Master Plan Reserve – Ordinary Meeting 18 August 2016

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Draft Master Plan" and*
- (b) *endorse the "Conondale Memorial Recreation Park Draft Master Plan 2016 – 2031" (Appendix A) for public exhibition and comment.*

Related Documentation

- Land Act 1994
- Sunshine Coast Council Planning Scheme 2014
- Sunshine Coast Corporate Plan 2014-2019
- Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011
- Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2011-2026
- Sunshine Coast Social Infrastructure Strategy 2011
- Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2020
- Sunshine Coast Waterways and Coastal Management Strategy 2011-2021.

Critical Dates

The Department of Transport & Main Roads (DTMR) have previously advised they are seeking a commitment from council to master plan the Conondale Memorial Recreation Park, noting the requirements for improved access arrangements designed to the appropriate standards. DTMR have noted that the interim Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for use at the Park will not be accepted in the longer term.

With this commitment however, DTMR have advised they will continue to accept the interim Traffic Management Plans for access to the Park by the Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club Incorporated and others in the short - medium term.

The existing Sunshine Coast Motorcycle Club Incorporated lease over a portion of the Park remains valid until 24 February 2020.

Implementation

It is acknowledged that the cost of implementing the recommendations of the Master Plan are beyond the capacity of council to fund in its own right. Future allocations towards the implementation of the Master Plan will be considered through Council's 10 year Capital Works Program and funding sought either by council or user groups through available grant opportunities.

8.4.2 PARKING AMNESTY FOR CALOUNDRA CBD

File No: Council Meetings
Author: Coordinator Community Land Permits and Parking
Community Services Department
Attachments: Att 1 - Request from Caloundra Chamber of Commerce303

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of a request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce for a six (6) week paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD commencing on Saturday, 10 December 2016.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 7 October, 2016, the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce requested Council's Chief Executive Officer to implement a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for a six (6) week period, commencing on Saturday 10 December, 2016. If endorsed, the paid parking amnesty will conclude at midnight on Sunday 29 January 2017.

In previous years, the amnesty was requested by the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce in an effort to support local business through the busy holiday period.

While the amnesty is in effect, parking patrols will continue within the Caloundra CBD ensuring vehicles are adhering to other parking breaches, including the two (2) hour time limit, parking in no stopping areas, disabled parking bays and bus stops.

It should be noted that in October 2011, Council resolved that the operating surplus derived from the Caloundra CBD parking meters could be utilised for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct. This operational request, if approved, will translate into a decrease in revenue derived from the parking meters. Based on the paid parking amnesty last year, an approximate decrease in revenue of between \$55,000 and \$60,000 is projected.

In addition, Council resolved in September 2014, that the financial result of penalty infringement notice revenue associated with paid metered parking in the Caloundra CBD be allocated to the Regulated Parking Program as per Council's resolution in October 2011.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Parking Amnesty for Caloundra CBD" and**
- (b) endorse a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for six (6) weeks, commencing Saturday 10 December 2016 until midnight Sunday 29 January 2017.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

It is anticipated that the foregone revenue in metered parking for the proposed six (6) week amnesty period will be approximately \$55,000 to \$60,000. This figure has been determined based on an estimate of metered parking revenue during November and December 2015. It is noted however there are currently only 61 meters in operation due to works on Bulcock Street Streetscape Project, therefore revenue lost will be less than the 71 meters that are usually in operation.

The metered parking area in the Caloundra CBD is regularly monitored by two (2) Council parking officers. However, based on a review of infringement data during the paid parking amnesty in previous years, it has been determined that only one (1) officer be allocated to the Caloundra CBD to cover the paid parking amnesty in December 2016 and January 2017.

Parking infringements would continue to be issued for instances such as exceeding the two (2) hour time limit, no stopping, disabled parking bays and bus stop enforcement.

Expenditure related to the one (1) Council parking officer in the Caloundra CBD is accommodated in the 2016/17 budget as adopted by Council.

The estimated infringement revenue for the period December 2016 and January 2017 is approximately \$1,500. This estimation is based on the number of infringements issued in the six (6) week paid parking amnesty last year.

Currently an external security officer undertakes cash collections with Council's Technical Officer. Cash collections will cease during the six (6) week amnesty and therefore will result in a savings of approximately \$1,800 in expenditure.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Service excellence*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service

Operational Activity: S23 - Local amenity and local laws - maintaining and regulating local amenity through local laws, regulated parking, community land permits and management of animals, overgrown land and abandoned vehicles

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Councillor Jenny McKay

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation has taken place with the following stakeholders in relation to this report:

- Councillor Dwyer, Division 2
- Director Community Services
- Director Infrastructure Services
- Manager Community Response
- Coordinator Civil Projects, Infrastructure Services
- Senior Management Accountant, Financial Services

Consultation has occurred with the Director, Infrastructure Services to ensure that this request has no bearing on the Caloundra CBD Parking fund or planned projects funded from this source.

In addition, consultation has occurred with the Coordinator Civil Projects regarding the completion date of the Bulcock Street Streetscape Project.

External Consultation

No external consultation has been undertaken in relation to this report.

Community Engagement

No community engagement has been undertaken in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

On 7 October 2016, Council received correspondence from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce requesting Council's Chief Executive Officer to implement a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for a six (6) week period, commencing on Saturday, 10 December 2016 and concluding at midnight on Sunday, 29 January 2017. The request, which has the support of the Divisional Councillor, is included as Attachment 1.

In previous years, the amnesty was requested by the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce in an effort to support local business through the busy holiday period.

While the amnesty is in effect, parking patrols will continue within the Caloundra CBD ensuring vehicles are adhering to other parking breaches, including the two (2) hour time limit, parking in no stopping areas, disabled parking bays and bus stops.

Caloundra is the only area on the Sunshine Coast to have paid meter parking. Current fees for metered parking are 25 cents per 10 minutes. This arrangement has been in place since 1992 and is adopted in Council's 2016/17 Schedule of Fees and Charges. There are 71 paid parking meters in the Caloundra CBD. As a result of the Bulcock Street Streetscape Project, currently there are 61 meters that are operational within the Caloundra CBD.

In October 2011, Council resolved that the operating surplus derived from the Caloundra CBD parking meters could be utilised for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct. The request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce, if approved, will translate into a decreased revenue from the parking meters of approximately \$55,000 and \$60,000.

Two Council parking officers regularly patrol in the Caloundra CBD between 9:00am and 5:00pm on weekdays and between 9:00am and 12:00pm on Saturday mornings to monitor compliance. As a result of the paid parking amnesty in previous years, a review of infringement data suggests that the community have become familiar with the arrangements during the paid parking amnesty and the need to comply with the two (2) hour time limit. The data suggests that only one parking officer is required to monitor the Caloundra CBD while the amnesty is in effect. The parking officer will continue to undertake their duties in the management of other parking conditions such as the two (2) hour time limit, no stopping, disabled parking bays and bus stop enforcement.

All interactions with the parking meters are administered by the Technical Officer. Cash collection is managed by the Technical Officer, with assistance from an external security guard. During the proposed period, the Technical Officer will conduct a thorough audit of the 71 parking meters in an effort to ensure that all hardware is operational for the new calendar year. This will include a stocktake of spare parts, any mandatory servicing of parts, cleaning of the meters, and replacement of any decals/signage on the meters due to deterioration. This is considered to be an efficient use of officer time during this period. Cash collections will cease during this time, resulting in a savings of approximately \$1,800 in expenditure of the six (6) week period.

While the proposal from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce will result in officers not being required to undertake cash collections for the six (6) week period, the proposal will not affect the time required to undertake parking compliance duties, general maintenance requirements, nor the budget associated with this work.

Legal

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

Policy

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

Risk

There are no identified risks to Council associated with this report.

Previous Council Resolution

The following previous Council resolutions are relevant to this report.

Ordinary Meeting 12 November 2015 - Council Resolution OM15/216

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "**Parking Amnesty for Caloundra CBD**" and*
- (b) *endorse a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for six (6) weeks, commencing Saturday 12 December 2015 until midnight Tuesday 26 January 2016.*

Ordinary Meeting 13 November 2014 – Council Resolution OM14/158

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "**Parking Amnesty for Caloundra CBD**" and*
- (b) *endorse a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for six (6) weeks, commencing midnight Friday 12 December, 2014 until midnight Monday 26 January, 2015.*

Ordinary Meeting 18 September 2014 – Council Resolution OM14/137

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to:

- (a) *include in the Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking Program the net financial result of the Penalty Infringement Notice revenue associated with paid metered parking, noting;*
 - i) *this revenue forms part of the Regulated Paid Parking Program in the Caloundra CBD, as per Council Resolution OM11/264;*
 - ii) *that paid metered parking underpins this program thus providing a cost neutral result for council;*
 - iii) *the financial calculations associated with this matter commence on 1 October 2014; and*
 - iv) *that the above process is subject to a review following council's implementation of a future region wide Parking Strategy.*

Ordinary Meeting 17 October 2013 – Council Resolution OM13/205

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “**Parking Amnesty for Caloundra CBD**” and*
- (b) *support an amnesty for paid meter parking in the Caloundra CBD for seven (7) weeks commencing Saturday 7 December, 2013.*

Ordinary Meeting 26 October 2011 – Council Resolution OM11/264

That Council:

- (a) *utilise the Operating Surplus from Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct;*
- (b) *request the Chief Executive Officer to develop a protocol for assessment and prioritisation of eligible projects to be funded by the Operating Surplus from Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct, in consultation with appropriate staff and Divisional Councillor;*
- (c) *review the allocation of the 2011/2012 Operating Surplus from Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking budget as part of the Budget Review 2 process with a view to funding projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct;*
- (d) *request the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report to Council 2 years post the implementation of (a) above to understand the impact of the allocation of utilising the Operating Surplus from Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct; and*
- (e) *note that the utilisation of said Surplus funds is not to replace, reduce or allow reallocation of current or future Bulcock Street funding.*

Related Documentation

There is no related documentation relevant to this report.

Critical Dates

A council resolution is required before 10 December 2016 to accommodate the request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce.

Implementation

If endorsed, Council staff will work with the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce to inform the community of the amnesty period and to ensure parking meters are non-operational from Saturday, 10 December 2016 for a six (6) week period.

8.5 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

8.5.1 ANNUAL REPORT ON COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES 2015/16

File No: Environmental Management
Author: Coordinator Community Catchment Partnerships
Infrastructure Services Department

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present for council's consideration the activities and outcomes of the delivery of community conservation partnership programs, for the 2015/16 financial year, by the Environmental Operations branch.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the 2015/16 financial year, ratepayers' investment in community conservation partnership programs attracted a substantial dividend from private landholders and volunteers through co-contributions of cash and labour. This community contribution significantly enhanced the protection and management of the region's biodiversity values. In the 2015/16 financial year council's investment of \$4,036,926 returned \$30,049,189 to council and the community. This equates to a 744% return on council's investment in community conservation partnership programs, reflecting a steadily increasing trend in the community's involvement in these programs. To continue to leverage off this substantial return, council remains focused on adapting to the changing trends in volunteerism, maximizing opportunities for expanding community sponsorship networks, and engaging and supporting the involvement of all demographic sectors of the Sunshine Coast community.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Annual Report on Community Conservation Partnership Activities and Outcomes 2015/16" and**
- (b) note that in 2017 further reports will be presented to council detailing recommendations for new volunteer engagement initiatives, community sponsorship opportunities and enhancements to youth engagement in environmental programs.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The 2015/2016 expenditure budgets allocated for the aggregated community conservation partnership programs was \$4,036,926. This includes both Environment Levy and core operational funding. The Environment Levy funding of \$2,398,814 equates to approximately 60% of the overall budget allocation and relates to two Environment Levy themes:

- Community Engagement and Support, and
- Environmental Operational Management.

The balance of \$1,638,112 or 40% of the overall expenditure is costed to core operational funding.

For the 2015/16 financial year, ratepayers' investment in community conservation partnerships services attracted on a regional basis a dividend of \$30,049,189 associated with co-contributions (cash and labour) from private landholders and volunteers in contributing to the protection and enhancement of the region's biodiversity values. This equates to a 744% return on recurrent budget investment per annum associated with community conservation partnerships services to the community, i.e. for every ratepayer dollar council has invested in these programs, our community partners have contributed \$7.44.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A healthy environment*
Outcome: 3.3 - A reputation for innovative environmental practices
Operational Activity: 3.3.1.1 - Highlight the region's natural assets and environmental credentials in the definition and promotion of our regional identity
3.3.1.4 – Continue to engage, support and grow community partnerships and volunteerism in managing and enhancing the region's natural assets on public and private lands

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

Cr Jenny McKay – Portfolio Councillor – Community and Environment

Internal Consultation

Consultation was undertaken with the following council staff:

- Manager Environmental Operations
- Coordinator Natural Areas
- Coordinator Coastal, Constructed Water Bodies & Planning
- Coordinator Biodiversity and Waterways

External Consultation

No external consultation was undertaken.

Community Engagement

No community engagement was undertaken.

PROPOSAL

Background

The Sunshine Coast is particularly fortunate to have an engaged community that invests both financially and in effort to protect and enhance the environmental values of the region's special landscape. The total combined participation of volunteers and private landholders in council managed conservation programs is 7,796 individuals who have collectively contributed a total of 892,359 hours and \$30,049,189 in financial contributions, resulting in a 744% return on council's investment. Just as council appreciates our volunteers and landholders they too appreciate council's efforts and support as evidenced by positive customer feedback.

The Environmental Operations branch delivers a number of community conservation partnerships programs providing the following on-ground environmental services to the community.

- Community Nature Conservation Program – supporting the activities of community volunteers undertaking environmental restoration activities on council owned and managed bushland reserves.
- Conservation Partnerships Program – working with private landowners to deliver the Land for Wildlife, Voluntary Conservation Agreement, and Landholder Environmental Grants programs.
- Turtle Care Program – supporting the activities of volunteers undertaking marine turtle conservation activities, relevant pest management activities, including research on coastal fox ecology and other conservation projects.
- Environmental Education Centres – council's Environmental Education Centres support a range of community volunteer opportunities that complement and support council's management of the sites. These provide for horticultural maintenance, landscaping, development, guided walks, education programs, visitor information, and planting projects.
- Environment Levy Grants & Partnerships Program - supporting and working in partnership with the community to implement council's environmental strategies and plans. Offers Partnership funding for up to three years towards operational expenses, Environment Grants for incorporated community groups for one off projects and Landholder Environmental Grants for rural landholders and primary producers for on ground projects that protect local waterways and native plants and animals on their properties.

Within the Environmental Operations Branch these services are delivered by 14 full-time staff and two part-time staff located throughout the region. The team delivers an integrated service that focuses on building and maintaining productive partnerships with the community to preserve and rehabilitate natural ecosystems and the biodiversity within those systems.

It is important to note that internal engagement is key to developing these successful programs with support provided by range of branches including, but not limited to, Environment and Sustainability, Communications, and Community Relations Branches.

It is also noted that a number of councillors actively participate in working bees and events and support conservation volunteer activities across the region. Both the community and staff appreciate their support.

Outcomes for 2015/16 financial year

Community Nature Conservation Program

In 2015/16 there were 42 volunteer groups and partners engaged in the Community Nature Conservation Program. Over 2015/16 financial year, 857 registered volunteers contributed over \$288,400 through in-kind labour contributions through environmental restoration working bees on council managed reserves.

Over 20,000 trees were planted with approximately 500 wheelie bins (240L) of environmental weeds were removed from council bushland reserves to landfill and a large amount of environmental weeds managed in situ. A summary of the program activities and associated benefits to council and the community is presented below:

Community Nature Conservation Program Activities 2015/16	Occurrences	Volunteer numbers	Volunteer hours	Trees Planted	Weeds removed (bags)*
Community Nature Conservation Program Groups contributing to bush regeneration	42 groups	424	8,520	11,969	2,694
Number of working bees	702				
Episodic (one-off) volunteering opportunities	9	380	1,126.5	7,325	0
Other programs, i.e. Green Army	1	14	112	480	1
Capacity building workshops	22	243	687	n/a	n/a
Corporate volunteering	1	7	21	300	0
School children/student volunteering	1	33	33	137	
Area of council land with voluntary bush regeneration activities – 186 hectares					
	Total	857	10,299.5	20,211	2,695

The Community Nature Conservation Program experienced higher than expected growth in 2015/2016 with six new groups being established at:

- Avocado Lane Maleny
- Maroochy Wetlands
- Tanawha Tall Gum Reserve
- Warana Foreshore Reserve
- Iliad Avenue Bushland Conservation Reserve, and
- Bokarina Foreshore Reserve.

There was a 25% increase in volunteers who attended working bees over the last 12 months.

Episodic volunteering

The Community Nature Conservation Program delivered and or supported the following episodic (one-off) volunteering opportunities:

- Annie Hehir Big Day Out
- Doonan Creek Restoration Day
- Kirbys Road Community Planting
- Dicky Beach Community Planting

The Community Nature Conservation Program experienced a 12% increase in episodic volunteers over the last six months.

Environmental Events

Community Nature Conservation Officers supported five regional environmental events including:

- Sunshine Coast Wildflower Festival
- Queensland Garden Expo
- World Environment Day, and
- National Tree Day – Little Mountain, Yaroomba, Mudjimba and Kenilworth.

Environmental Education Centres

Community volunteers support council and the broader community at council's three environmental education centre locations: Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve, Maroochy Bushland Botanic Gardens, and Maroochy Wetlands Sanctuary.

In total, 154 volunteers contributed 14,184 volunteer hours during 2015-16, valued at \$449,730. Committee members also contributed 807 hours across the three centres.

The centres received over 113,506 visitors, with 3,876 participating in 181 guided walks.

Other activities at the centres include:

- Koala Spotting Day – 76 volunteers, 228 hours
- Ongoing Koala monitoring – 5 volunteers, 15 hours/week to identify preferred species, and
- Holiday Workshop programs – 653 participants.

Kids in Action

The Kids in Action conference is part of Kids Teaching Kids Week. Kids in Action brings schools together to explore local environmental issues

The program continues to build momentum with 350 students and teachers from 22 schools participating in 2015.

Employment and Training Programs

In addition to the numerous capacity building workshops and training provided in the above programs, Council supported a number of other environmental employment and training programs including Green Army and Skilling Queensland.

Green Army

Six Green Army projects have been sponsored and/or supported in recent years.

- Maleny Community Precinct – council sponsored. Completed 2014/15.
- Bells Creek Riparian, Reserve 1000 – Wetland Care Australia sponsored in conjunction with council. Completed 2014/15.
- Petrie Creek Lowland Rainforest Rehabilitation Stage One – Maroochy Waterwatch sponsored, council supported with provision of council sites in conjunction with private land. Completed 2014/15.
- Maroochy Alex Headland – Alex Foreshore Community Group sponsored in conjunction with council. Completed 2015/16.
- Coolum Stumers Coastal rehabilitation – Maroochy Waterwatch sponsored, council supported with provision of council sites. Completed 2015/16.
- Petrie Creek Lowland Rainforest Rehabilitation Stage Two – Maroochy Waterwatch sponsored, council supported with provision of council sites in conjunction with private land. Completed 2015/16.

Skilling Queensland

In 2015/16, two Skilling Queensland programs were sponsored via ECOllaboration, with 20 participants and a supervisor. Each program ran for approximately six months each.

Sites worked on included:

- Kirby's Road Environmental Reserve
- Stumers Creek Foreshore Reserve, and
- Petrie Creek.

Sponsorship

In the 2015/16 financial year, council's community conservation partnership activities received sponsorship from:

- Holloway Galleries – Shelly Beach Community Nature Conservation Group
- SEQ Catchments & Macadamia Conservation Trust – Conservation Forum, and
- Unitywater – Kids in Action.

Donations

In the 2015/16 financial year, council's community conservation partnership activities attracted donations from:

- Caloundra Lions Club (barbecue equipment and cooking) – National Tree Day (Little Mountain)
- Parklands Bakery (bread) – National Tree Day (Little Mountain)
- Bushland Conservation Management (prizes) – National Tree Day (Eumundi)
- Toyota (merchandise) – National Tree Day (Eumundi), and
- Westpac (barbecue trailer) – Clean Up for the Hatchlings.

Conservation Partnerships Program**Land for Wildlife**

Land for Wildlife is a voluntary nature conservation program which aims to preserve and rehabilitate natural ecosystems on private land.

- The Sunshine Coast Council region has the largest Land for Wildlife membership of any council in Queensland with 1,091 landowners currently registered within the program (842 registered and 249 working towards full registration).
- It should also be noted that the Land for Wildlife Program delivered by the Sunshine Coast Council is the largest program delivered by a local government authority in Australia.
- The total combined area of registered properties in the Sunshine Coast Council region exceeds 10,708 hectares.

Land for Wildlife Incentives Program

All registered Land for Wildlife partners are eligible to apply annually for up to 300 native trees and five nest boxes to assist in providing habitat for wildlife on their properties. Weed management kits with training have also been offered since 2014.

In 2015/16, 236 partners received Land for Wildlife incentives resulting in:

- 22,725 native trees in the ground at 156 Land for Wildlife properties
- 239 nest boxes installed at 48 Land for Wildlife properties, and
- 32 landholders received weed management kits and training.

In 2015, as part of the implementation of the Koala Conservation Plan, a koala food trees incentive was trialed with Land for Wildlife landholders.

- 107 Landholders received over 3,300 koala food trees.

Council staff delivered 20 workshops and field days to 305 Land for Wildlife members on a range of topics including fire management, weed control, plant identification and bird walks.

Voluntary Conservation Agreements

The Voluntary Conservation Agreement program is a higher level protective mechanism that supports private landholders by conserving the bushland on their properties in perpetuity by registering a covenant on title over some or all of the property.

The program continues to experience growth with a total of 68 properties, protecting 1,094 hectares of bushland across the Sunshine Coast via Voluntary Conservation Agreements. The Voluntary Conservation Agreement program is funded from the Environment Levy.

TurtleCare Program 2015/16

The aim of the TurtleCare Volunteer program is to implement an ongoing marine turtle conservation program and other conservation projects.

- 143 registered community members volunteered an estimated 4,766 hours in program activities, valued at \$142,980.
- A 'Clean Up for the Hatchlings' event was held attracting 300 participants who collected and removed over 500kg of rubbish from local beaches.
- A total 66 nests were managed from 116 recorded nesting events. 6,380 emerged hatchlings and 15 marking tags applied.
- The TurtleCare sub-site has now been moved to council's corporate website, the existing web address will be redirected.
- Sunshine Coast coastal fox research program continued.

Environment Levy Grants & Partnerships Program

The Environment Levy Grants & Partnerships program consists of three components:

- Environment Levy Partnerships
- Environment Levy Grants, and
- Landholder Environment Grants.

Environment Levy Partnerships

In 2015/16, five new Partnerships were approved to a value of \$149,850:

- Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc - \$50,000 for three years
- Hinterland Bushlinks - \$30,000 for one year
- Sunshine Coast Koala Rescue Inc - \$10,000 for three years
- Friends of Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens Inc - \$4,850 for three years, and
- Maleny District Green Hills Fund - \$10,000 for one year.

In total in 2015/16, 22 organisations were supported via Environment Levy Partnerships to a value of \$549,850.

In 2016/17, two new partnerships have been approved to a value of \$45,450:

- Hinterland Bushlinks – \$37,000 for one year, and
- Maleny District Green Hills Fund– \$8,450 for one year.

In total in 2016/17, 22 organisations will be supported via Environment Levy Partnerships to a value of \$554,188.

Outcomes and Activities

In 2014/15, community group outcomes and activities supported by the 21 Environment Levy Partnerships included:

- total number of volunteers active within the 21 groups was 4,512

- total volunteer hours were 190,990 equating to \$5,730,000 in volunteer contributions towards our environment
- number of people who accessed the services of the 21 community groups was 260,348, and
- 617 community events were held or attended across the region.

Environment Levy Grants

In 2015/16, seven Environment Levy Grants were approved to a value of \$20,034, which supported projects with a total value of \$94,175. This is a 400% return on investment.

Landholder Environment Grants

This is an Environment Levy funded program that is available to private landowners to protect and enhance the natural assets and biodiversity of the Sunshine Coast region.

In 2015/16 the program awarded \$329,603 of grants to 115 landholders, supporting projects with a total value of \$1,223,721.

In 2014/15 the program awarded \$389,368 of grants to 109 landholders. The total in-kind value to council from landholders receiving landholder environment grants is expected to exceed \$500,000. Based on 89 completed and acquitted 2014/15 projects to date, the following benefits have flowed to council and the community:

- 27,496 native trees/shrubs/ground covers planted
- 15.4 hectares of land revegetated
- 103.5 hectares of bushland rehabilitated (environmental weed removal)
- 29.8 hectares of bushland and revegetation protected by installed fencing
- 13.1 kilometres of waterway fenced to exclude livestock with one creek crossing and two off-stream watering points installed
- 9.2 kilometres of waterway rehabilitated
- 11,588 hours of in-kind landholder labour, equates to \$347,640
- volunteer labour on the Landholder Environment Grant projects was 155 hours, equating to \$4,650
- landholders contributed \$77,448 cash and \$18,830 materials and equipment towards the projects, and
- attracted an additional \$50,454 of external funds.

Conservation Forum 2015 – Storytelling: to engage and inspire

The Conservation Forum is a biennial event funded by the Environment Levy to thank and give recognition to volunteers and landholders involved in council's community conservation partnership programs and events. Approximately 200 Sunshine Coast Council conservation volunteers, Land for Wildlife landholders and community partners congregated at the Lake Kawana Community Centre for the Conservation Forum.

Storytelling was the theme of the day with keynote speaker, Tim Cope, sharing his three year journey on horseback through Mongolia to Hungary 'On the Trail of Genghis Khan'. The stories shared both from the speakers and through the networking opportunities in the breaks both engaged and motivated participants.

2nd Coastal Forum 2015 – Building knowledge on coastal processes

A bi-annual coastal forum is held in conjunction with the Environment and Sustainable Policy Branch providing an opportunity to bring together local residents, community groups, council and other professionals to discuss critical influences and issues impacting on our coastal environment.

In 2015, over 70 members of the community attended representing the below groups:

- Barung Landcare
- Friends of Currimundi Lake
- Friends Of Woorim Beach
- Cotton Tree Community Nature Conservation Group
- Coolum & North Shore Coast Care
- Turtle Care Sunshine Coast
- Sunshine Beach Surf Lifesaving Club/Noosa Biosphere
- BMT WBM Pty Ltd
- Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service
- University of the Sunshine Coast, and
- SEQ Catchments.

Bribie Island Community Planting 2015

Council was successful in gaining a permit for the Bribie Island Revegetation Project. This project was a partial step in an integrated response by the Sunshine Coast Council to the ongoing issues of concern in relation to the breakthrough risks of Bribie Island during extreme weather events over recent storm seasons.

Up to 1,000 native plants were planted at two identified and monitored sites located on the northern part of Bribie Island.

The Bribie Island Community Planting was held over two mornings with representatives from a number of community groups including:

- Take Action for Pumicestone Passage
- Currimundi Catchment Care Group
- Golden Beach Progress Association
- Night Eyes Water & Landcare Group
- Caloundra Lions Club, and
- Friends of Currimundi Lake.

Legal

While there is a suite of legislation that can apply, the more prominent ones as it relates to operational service level provision include:

- *Land Titles Act* as it relates to conservation covenant agreements with private landholders
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* as it relates to protected species and habitats
- *Vegetation Management Act* as it relates to protection of remnant vegetation
- *Workplace Health and Safety Act* as it relates to council's duty of care to provide a safe workplace for staff and volunteers
- *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002* and associated regulations as it relates to the management of declared pest plant and animal species on lands under council control, and
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and regulations as it relates to mitigating environmental harm on protected species, e.g. green and loggerhead turtles.

Policy

The relevant policies and strategies include:

- Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2020
- Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016, and
- Waterways and Coastal Management Strategy 2011-2021.

Risk

There are no risk implications for this issue.

Previous Council Resolution

There are no previous council resolutions that relate to this report.

Related Documentation

There is no related documentation for this report.

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates that relate to this report.

Implementation

Ongoing delivery of this range of services to the community.

8.5.2 DICKY BEACH PRECINCT PLAN**File No:** 23195**Author:** Landscape Architect / Urban Design
Infrastructure Services Department**Appendices:** App A - Dicky Beach Precinct Plan Pg 265 / 299

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to present a Precinct Plan for Dicky Beach for council to consider for endorsement.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Dicky Beach Precinct Plan comprises Dicky Beach's main commercial strip on Beerburum Street and the Dicky Beach foreshore area which includes Dicky Beach Park and carpark, portions of Sir Leslie Wilson Park, Beerwah Parade Park, Dicky Beach Caravan Park interface and Dicky Beach surf club surrounds.

The purpose of the precinct project was to coordinate numerous council initiatives from various areas of council as one integrated design. These initiatives included:

- Dicky Beach Landscape Plan
- Dicky Beach Streetscape Renewal and Shade Arbour Removal/Replacement
- S.S. (Screw Steamer) Dicky Wreck Interpretation Display and Marker

The development of the Dicky Beach Precinct Plan was in response to a Council Resolution at Ordinary Meeting 18 June 2015 which endorsed the partial removal of the SS Dicky wreck and recommended the development of a landscape plan for Dicky Beach that includes the siting of the wreck interpretive display. The Precinct Plan featured in this report defines the long term vision for the area and inform the siting of interpretive display(s) that reference and preserve the wreck's heritage values and significance as a cultural and iconic landmark.

The Dicky Beach Streetscape Renewal and Shade Arbour Removal/Replacement component involved looking at possible improvements to refresh the mid-life streetscape. The project also determined whether the existing shade structures along Beerburum Street should be removed due to sightline issues and replaced with new elements for shade and sculptural purposes.

The development of the SS Dicky Wreck Interpretation Display(s) and Marker are recommended outcomes from the SS Dicky Archaeological Management Planning Documentation. The Dicky Beach Precinct Plan highlights opportunities to interpret the wreck and retain its cultural significance through various interpretation initiatives within the precinct that is in keeping with the Conservation Management Plan's Statement of Significance:

The significance of the S.S. Dicky lies in its excellent ability to convey the story and meaning of shipwreck through its present form and context as well as provide some illumination on iron shipbuilding technology and life aboard a late 19th century cargo vessel. It is a much loved and perhaps even revered cultural landmark of the Sunshine Coast.

The Precinct Plan portrays the long term vision for Dicky Beach foreshore and commercial area. The plan has been prepared to maximise cultural, recreation, social and economic opportunities and reduce the risk of ad-hoc development, ensuring that future embellishments are in line with the precinct's long term vision.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Dicky Beach Precinct Plan” and
- (b) endorse the Dicky Beach Precinct Plan (Appendix A), to guide the future development of Dicky Beach and implementation of the SS Dicky wreck interpretive display(s), subject to funding being available in future annual budgets, as outlined in Council’s adopted 10 year Capital Works Program, or as sourced through external State or Federal grant programs.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The Dicky Beach Precinct Plan presents a 20 year plus vision with a number of key outcomes that can be delivered through a staged implementation process over the short, medium and long term. The plan prescribes outcomes for new assets, existing assets and operational assets. The plan accommodates future growth and the anticipated increase of visitation to the area due to developments such as Caloundra South coming online which is likely to generate more visitation to the southern beaches.

A priorities plan and indicative budgets are detailed in Appendix A. The priorities plan identifies nine priority areas to be delivered in the short, medium and long term. The priorities plan is a guide for the sequencing of the precinct’s staged implementation and may change due to the type of funding that is available at the time, for example, the timing of an asset’s renewal or the successful receipt of grant funding for a specific component of work.

The plan prescribes \$1.7 million in new assets over a 20 year plus period. New assets include the SS Dicky interpretive areas, new pathway linkages through the area and additional foreshore picnic areas following feedback from community consultation. It is envisaged that the new assets will be delivered through a number of avenues including council, developer contributions, the local community, state and federal government grant programmes. Examples of potential grant programmes include the QLD State Government: Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program, Queensland Tourism Infrastructure Fund and Arts Queensland: Regional Arts Development Fund.

In developing the precinct plan, the status of existing assets were assessed and as a result the plan prescribes whether the asset should remain and be upgraded or whether it should be removed or relocated at the time of asset renewal. Examples include the existing shelters, skate park and toilet block. The plan prescribes \$1.9 million of asset renewals that are likely to occur over the next 20 plus years. The timing of the upgrades will be determined by council’s ongoing audits and the asset renewal and replacement program.

The staged implementation of the Dicky Beach precinct will require funding from numerous council programmes. Some of the plan’s components could be delivered through various sub programmes within the Capital Works programme, these include the Recreation Park and Landscape Amenity Sub Programme, Streetscape Sub Programme and Public Transport Infrastructure Sub Programme. Other council funding sources include the Asset Renewal and Replacement Programme, the Heritage Levy, and the Operational Programme.

The following budgets are currently scheduled in the Capital Works Program for the development of the Dicky Beach precinct:

2016/2017 Transport Infrastructure Management	\$100,000	Construction Documentation of the high priority areas
2016/2017 Transport Infrastructure Management	\$30,000	Streetscape Refurbishment
2020/2021 Parks and Gardens	\$180,000	Precinct Plan Implementation
2020/2021 Parks and Gardens	\$165,000	Coastal Pathway Draft Masterplan Implementation
2020/2022 Parks and Gardens	\$200,000	Coastal Pathway Draft Masterplan Implementation
2020/2023 Parks and Gardens	\$250,000	Coastal Pathway Draft Masterplan Implementation

The 2016/2017 amount of \$100,000 will be used for further design development and construction documentation of the high priority areas which includes the main SS Dicky interpretative area. This will enable the priority projects to be “shovel ready” for any future government funding program and to also assist in the development of the future 10 year Capital Works Program. Furthermore, funding will be sought through the 2017/2018 budget process to stage the construction of the precinct plan over future years.

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

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

The following portfolio councillors were consulted:

- Cr Cox (Portfolio – Place Development and Design)
- Cr Baberowski (Portfolio: Transport, the Arts and Heritage)
- Cr Dickson (Portfolio: Planning and Development)

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation was sought from the following stakeholders:

- Councillor Tim Dwyer (Division 2)
- Infrastructure Services
 - Director
 - Parks and Gardens
 - Environmental Operations
 - Transport Infrastructure Management
 - Project Delivery Branch
 - Waste and Resource Management
- Corporate Services
 - Property Management

- Economic Development and Major Projects
 - Commercial
- Community Services
 - Community Relations
 - Community Facilities & Planning
 - Community Response
- Regional Strategy and Planning
 - Environment and Sustainability Policy
 - Transport and Infrastructure Policy

Summary of responses from internal stakeholders with feedback incorporated in the design:

- Parks and Gardens provided feedback on current site usage, tree management, proposed coastal pathway alignment and design specifications to reduce maintenance.
- Environmental Operations provided an overall briefing on the SS Dicky wreck relocation and conservation management plan. The branch also provided input on local coastal processes, turtle requirements and dune vegetation maintenance.
- Transport Infrastructure Management provided feedback on the existing road network, the Beerburum streetscape, reconfiguring the carpark, addressing road safety issues, drainage and electrical infrastructure improvements.
- Waste and Resource Management provided input on current and future waste requirements.
- Property Management provided input on current land and building information.
- Economic Development and Major Projects provided input on the caravan park and surf club lease arrangements and site requirements. The precinct plan proposes alterations to the fence alignment along the caravan park's eastern frontage to allow for better path connectivity through the precinct. Council's civil designers tested the caravan turn paths with the new fence alignment and confirmed that there was no impact on the current caravan park layout.
- Community Services provided feedback on the SS Dicky wreck heritage components, skate park strategy recommendations and current events held within the area.
- Regional Strategy and Planning provided feedback on the existing open space network, road and carparking network, stormwater and waterway conditions.

External Consultation

The following external groups were consulted as part of the project:

- SS Dicky Taskforce (comprising SCC, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, community heritage representatives, Dicky Beach SLC, council-engaged SS Dicky archaeologists and conservationist)
- Unitywater – existing infrastructure status and development requirements
- Community – see community engagement section

Relevant approvals and permits will be obtained as required during detailed design and staged construction.

Community Engagement

The community engagement process comprised:

Phase 1 Share Your Ideas (November 2015): The purpose of the consultation was to gather ideas from the community to determine the vision for the precinct and how it should be developed. A project newsletter featuring a survey was distributed and advertised. Informal discussions with external stakeholders such as the surf club, caravan park management and shop owners were undertaken.

Findings from the consultation are detailed in Appendix A. Respondents loved the relaxed, casual, village feel that Dicky Beach provided while not trying to be Kings Beach or Caloundra. Beerburrum Street featured highly under 'What would you change?' with issues such as speed, sightlines, traffic volumes and pedestrian safety raised. The retention of the foreshore parks rated highly under 'What should stay the same?'. The feedback was used to inform the development of the Precinct Plan.

Phase 2 Have Your Say (July 2016): The consultation phase gave the community the opportunity to view and comment on the draft Precinct Plan. A project newsletter featured the plan and the SS Dicky heritage and interpretative elements.

Findings from the consultation are detailed in Appendix A. The draft precinct plan was received positively with some further considerations and suggestions received. Road safety and road treatments along Beerburrum Street featured highly in the responses. As a result, the feedback was reviewed and assessed at a civil design review meeting with some alterations made to the draft plan. It was agreed that some suggestions would be revisited in the future when Caloundra's access road options were addressed as this may reduce traffic volumes through Dicky Beach. Other alterations to the draft plan included the siting and provision of specific park assets (e.g. showers and drinking fountains). Comments in relation to the proposed coastal pathway alignment and Bunbubah Creek were forwarded to the relevant project officers for their information. Unitywater were also informed of comments associated with the sewerage infrastructure.

PROPOSAL

The Dicky Beach Precinct Plan comprises Dicky Beach's main commercial strip on Beerburrum Street and the Dicky Beach foreshore area which includes Dicky Beach Park and carpark, portions of Sir Leslie Wilson Park, Beerwah Parade Park, Dicky Beach Caravan Park interface and Dicky Beach surf club surrounds.

The purpose of the precinct project was to coordinate numerous council initiatives from various areas of council as one integrated design. These initiatives included:

- Dicky Beach Landscape Plan
- Dicky Beach Streetscape Renewal and Shade Arbour Removal/Replacement
- S.S. (Screw Steamer) Dicky Wreck Interpretation Display and Marker

The development of the Dicky Beach Precinct Plan is in response to the partial removal of the SS Dicky wreck in July 2015. The purpose of the plan is to define the long term vision for the area and inform the siting of interpretive display(s) that reference and preserve the wreck's heritage values and significance as a cultural and iconic landmark.

The Dicky Beach Streetscape Renewal and Shade Arbour Removal/Replacement component involved looking at possible improvements to refresh the mid-life streetscape. The project also determined whether the existing shade structures along Beerburrum Street should be removed due to sight line issues and replaced with new elements for shade and sculptural purposes.

The development of the SS Dicky Wreck Interpretation Display(s) and Marker are recommended outcomes from the SS Dicky Archaeological Management Planning Documentation. The Dicky Beach Precinct project will look at opportunities to interpret the wreck and retain its cultural significance through various interpretation initiatives within the precinct area that is in keeping with the Conservation Management Plan's Statement of Significance:

The significance of the S.S. Dicky lies in its excellent ability to convey the story and meaning of shipwreck through its present form and context as well as provide some illumination on iron shipbuilding technology and life aboard a late 19th century cargo vessel. It is a much loved and perhaps even revered cultural landmark of the Sunshine Coast.

The purpose of the Precinct Plan is to provide design outcomes that:

- **Define the long term vision** for the foreshore area which will guide the future planning, budgets, detailed design and construction outcomes.
- **Develop the precinct's identity** to support and distinguish this important local centre.
- **Create a distinctive and coordinated image** for the Dicky Beach precinct that draws on **the significance of the SS Dicky wreck as a 'cultural landmark' that offers visual amenity, rustic aesthetic and a photographic iconic attraction** for the Dicky Beach area and the Sunshine Coast.
- Develop a design response to the SS Dicky Archaeological Management Planning Documentation **that provides suitable outdoor interpretive initiatives** that are *'in line of sight of the wreck site (vista), possibly containing removed elements of the wreck as an interpretive and high profile replacement of the iconic image of the wreck site, referencing the striking visual features and characteristics of the wreck, rather than attempting to create a duplicate'*.
- Provide a design response that **conveys 'the story and meaning of shipwreck through its present form and context as well as provide some illumination on iron shipbuilding technology and life aboard a late 19th century cargo vessel'**
- Provide a design response that incorporates **a new wreck marker 'to mark the position of the buried wreck remains'**.
- **Improve the connectivity** to and through the precinct by the provision of desirable pathway routes, visual cues, legible signage and complementary infrastructure.
- **Maximise the recreation, social, cultural and economic opportunities** within the Dicky Beach precinct.
- **Create a safe and usable precinct area** that is high quality, comfortable, safe, accessible and inviting.
- **Improve the open space, recreation and play, social gatherings and arrival experience.**
- **Increase the quality of life and community satisfaction** for existing and future residents and visitors to Dicky Beach and the Sunshine Coast.
- Ensure that the **maintenance requirements** of the new infrastructure does not impose a significant or unnecessary burden on Council resources.

The Precinct Plan portrays the long term vision for Dicky Beach foreshore and commercial area. The plan has been prepared to maximise cultural, recreation, social and economic opportunities and reduce the risk of ad-hoc development, ensuring that future embellishments are in line with the precinct's long term vision. The proposals are subtle improvements, specific to the area, that build on the 'relaxed, casual, village feel' while 'not trying to be Kings Beach or Caloundra' as highlighted during the community engagement. The plan identifies the siting and location of future foreshore and streetscape embellishments. A priorities plan which outlines the staged implementation is detailed in Appendix A.

During the course of the project, it was deemed that the shade structures in Beerburum Street would be removed due to sightline issues at the pedestrian crossing. In addition, council reduced the speed through the precinct to 40km/h. Council has received positive feedback since the removal of the structures and the reduction in speed due to improved visibility and safety at the pedestrian crossing. Based on this feedback, the plan does not propose replacing the structures but proposes other interventions along the street that create a sense of place and improved amenity.

The plan identifies five key heritage and interpretation components within the precinct. The main interpretive area is sited within the park, bridging over an existing stormwater outlet. The area has clear line of sight to the original wreck site. The proposed coastal pathway passes near the space drawing people from outer areas to the main interpretive display. The main interpretive area is an abstracted outline of the SS Dicky with rustic steel ribs framing the space. Folded 'barnacle' themed seats offer a rest spot and a historical account of the wreck. Images, stories and wreck remains are integrated within the folded barnacle seats.

Secondary interpretive elements are sited along Beerburum Street. These elements are designed to attract the attention of those passing through Dicky Beach while also creating a coordinated image and refreshed iconic identity for Dicky Beach.

Some of the wreck pieces that were removed in July 2015 will be incorporated within the barnacle forms for viewing. At the time of removal, the wreck pieces were assessed by the project conservationist and archaeologist whom determined which pieces to retain for conservation purposes or discard. The 'SS Dicky Conservation Inspection Report' and the 'SS Dicky Artefact Database' provide details of each wreck piece and restoration recommendations where applicable. The wreck pieces to be used in the precinct will be selected from the discard range. The discard wreck pieces will continue to exhibit the rustic, corroded, ship wreck qualities that the present day wreck featured rather than restoring the metal to its former state. The pieces identified to be retained will be stored at council's depot in accordance with the 'SS Dicky Conservation Management Plan' and may be utilised in future cultural heritage displays within the region.

Council has uncovered the original SS Dicky bell and is currently in the process of making three duplicates, one of which will be incorporated within the Dicky Beach precinct. The existing propeller will remain onsite and will be refurbished to incorporate the barnacle, storytelling, imagery and theming around the base of the existing cairn.

The notion of a fixed beach marker located on the beach was explored as part of the project. Due to sand migration and the erosion-prone nature of the area, it was deemed that a beach marker may present similar safety and exposure issues as the existing wreck. A 3D visualisation of the wreck is proposed as an alternative to a fixed beach marker. The 3D image of the wreck will be visible via personal mobile devices. Users can locate the wreck from the main interpretive area or in the vicinity of the buried wreck on the beach. Council is partnering with the University of the Sunshine Coast to develop the 3D visualisations. In addition to the digital markers, the balustrade to the main viewing area will include a traditional navigational device to view an outline of the SS Dicky with the wreck site as the backdrop.

Legal

There are no legal implications relevant to the report.

The previous council report 'SS Dicky Wreck Relocation Plan' (22 May 2014) makes reference to council's range of responsibilities in terms of addressing the public liability associated with the wreck' and ensuring 'a safe final display once the wreck has been relocated'. The Precinct Plan identifies where the wreck display will be sited and how the wreck will be re-interpreted in a 'safe' manner.

Policy

Council's endorsement of this report is in line with the direction of the following organisational plans, strategies and policies:

- Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan 2014-2019
- Sunshine Coast Council Heritage Plan 2015-2020
- Sunshine Coast Active Transport Plan 2011-2031
- Sunshine Coast Access and Inclusion Plan 2011-2016

- Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011 (August 2014 edition)
- Sunshine Coast Social Infrastructure Strategy 2011
- Sunshine Coast Community Events and Celebrations Strategy 2010
- Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015-2020
- Sunshine Coast Skate and BMX Strategy 2011-2020
- SS Dicky Strategy 2013

- Sunshine Coast Events Policy 2010
- Sunshine Coast Community Safety Policy 2014
- Sunshine Coast Access and Inclusion Policy 2011
- Sunshine Coast Place Making Policy 2012
- Strategic Policy – Cultural Heritage Levy

- Sunshine Coast Open Space Landscape Infrastructure Manual (LIM) 2013

Risk

The plan proposes the development of SS Dicky wreck interpretive areas within the precinct. The proposals are in response to the partial removal of the SS Dicky wreck in July 2015. The interpretive initiatives are to restore the iconic values, cultural significance, tourism generator and photographic attraction associated with the wreck and Dicky Beach.

There is the potential risk for loss of tourism, loss of economy for the locality and reduced visitation levels following the removal of the wreck. Council may be at risk of criticism for not providing funded and constructed interpretive initiatives at the time of removal.

Council's risk exposure is considered to be reduced through continuing community consultation and updates through the design and construction phases. A project information sign will be installed onsite featuring the endorsed Precinct Plan and updates on the project's implementation status.

Previous Council Resolution

A report was provided to Council on 22 May 2014 which resolved the following:

Council Resolution (OM14/74)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "**S.S. Dicky Wreck Relocation Plan**"*
- (b) *consider the allocation of \$180,000 in operational project funds in the 2014/2015 budget year for wreck relocation, display, interpretation and conservation purposes*
- (c) *request the Chief Executive Officer to write to Department of Environment and Heritage Protection to seek a joint approach including funding as outlined in "SS Dicky Inspection Report 2013" (Appendix A) and*
- (d) *request the Chief Executive Officer to provide a further report to council on future display and interpretive options after the completion of Stage 1.*

A subsequent report was provided to Council on 18 June 2015 which resolved the following:

Council Resolution (OM15/96)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “**S.S. Dicky Relocation Update**”*
- (b) *endorse the long term wreck management strategy provided by this report which includes:*
 - (i) *removal of the exposed upper portions of the wreck*
 - (ii) *ongoing removal of loose wreckage remains as they become exposed in the future*
 - (iii) *main portion of the wreck to remain buried in situ beneath the beach*
 - (iv) *development and delivery of a wreck interpretation display as part of a Park Landscape Plan for the Dicky Beach foreshore park and*
 - (v) *conservation and storage of the removed pieces not utilised in the interpretative display*
- (c) *note that there will be a carryover request for the remaining unspent portion of 2014/2015 operational funds to continue to deliver this project in 2015/2016 and*
- (d) *endorse the development of a Park Landscape Plan for Dicky Beach that will include the siting of the wreck interpretive display and will be subject to a report to Council at a future stage including capital costs to progress the project.*

Related Documentation

- SS Dicky Archaeological Management Planning Documentation – Conservation Management Plan, June 2015, Cosmos Archaeology
- SS Dicky Archaeological Management Planning Documentation – Heritage Impact Assessment Plan, May 2015, Cosmos Archaeology
- SS Dicky Caloundra Queensland – Wreck Interpretation Plan, April 2015, 3-D Projects
- SS Dicky – Caloundra, Qld – In-situ Features Registry
- SS Dicky – Caloundra, Qld – Artefact Registry
- SS Dicky – Artefact Database
- SS Dicky Conservation Inspection Report, August 2015, Jon Carpenter and Vicki Richards, Western Australia Museum
- Test Excavation of SS Dicky, 17 April 2015

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates relevant to this report.

Implementation

The Dicky Beach Precinct Plan presents a 20 year plus vision with a number of key outcomes that can be delivered through a staged implementation process over the short, medium and long term. The staged implementation of the precinct plan will occur over a number years subject to available funding.

The staged implementation of the Precinct Plan will be developed with council through the annual budget process. Council will also be actively seeking state and federal government grant funding for some of the project components as applicable.

In order to keep the community informed over the life of the project, the endorsed 2016 Dicky Beach Precinct Plan will be available for viewing on council’s internet site. A project information sign will also be installed within the precinct featuring the endorsed Precinct Plan and updates on the project’s implementation status.

8.5.3 WEEKEND NIGHT TIME CLOSURE OF OCEAN STREET, MAROOCHYDORE

File No:	Council meetings
Author:	Coordinator Technical Services Infrastructure Services Department
Attachments:	Att 1 - Maroochydore Revitalisation Association Report on Impacts of Trial Road Closure335

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide council information regarding the trial Friday and Saturday night time temporary closures of Ocean Street, Maroochydore and to recommend that council approve Friday and Saturday night time temporary closure of Ocean Street, Maroochydore on a regular basis, subject to agreed outcomes in discussion with the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association and Queensland Police Service.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2016 council approved a request from the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association (MRA) to begin a trial weekend night time closure of Ocean Street.

Ocean Street is a growing night time entertainment precinct and is becoming increasingly busy with new restaurants and other businesses. An opportunity to activate the street for families in the early evening and for adults in the later evening within the entertainment precinct is considered beneficial but has raised concerns with the risk for pedestrian and vehicle conflicts.

There is a significant reduction in traffic volumes in the evening along Ocean Street and the disruption to traffic flow in the area is considered to be minor.

In June 2016, the MRA wrote to council with a summary of their findings during the trial period of the street closure on each Friday and Saturday night. In their conclusions, the MRA wrote that they are “confident that with a permanent road closure the desired cultural, economic and safety impact will continue to grow over time”. A copy of the letter is attached as Appendix 1.

In subsequent discussions with the Executive Manager of the MRA, a verbal request has been made for council to take responsibility for the installation and demobilisation of the barricading and signage required to close the street.

The temporary street closure during the trial period appears to have operated well, whilst there have been some objections to the proposal. It is considered that council should look favourably at a proposal to continue the regular closures.

The installation of signage and traffic management associated with the temporary closures during the trial has been undertaken by the MRA at their cost. The MRA has advised that the association is unable to continue to meet the costs of the regular street closures beyond the trial period.

Council has not budgeted for operational funding to meet these costs. The MRA should be approached to continue to meet the ongoing costs for the installation, removal of the temporary signage and witches hats together with the associated traffic management if it is proposed to continue this arrangement for the balance of this financial year.

In order to simplify the street closure process, a proposal has been put forward to install automatic bollards and message boards/signs. The bollards would be housed below ground and, when activated, emerge from the street surface. The message boards/signs would remain in place, however, only be readable when activated.

If council is supportive of this proposal, funding the installation of automatic bollards and message boards/signs and the associated operational costs will need to be considered through the 2017/18 budget process as no funding is currently available.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Weekend night time closure of Ocean Street, Maroochydore”**
- (b) advise the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association of its support for the closure of Ocean Street between the roundabout at the entrance to the Big Top Shopping Centre and Duporth Avenue every Friday and Saturday night from 5pm to 4am to support safe street activities, subject to conditions as determined by the Chief Executive Officer**
- (c) refer the consideration of funding for the permanent retractable bollards capital upgrade to the 2017/18 budget deliberations to support the closure, including the associated operational funding**
- (d) request the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association to fund the current street closures for the balance of the 2016/17 financial year and**
- (e) request the Chief Executive Officer to nominate staff to meet with the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association and Queensland Police Service to discuss various operational matters and agree on terms for the road closure.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

During the current trial closure period, the MRA has met the cost for the traffic management and traffic control associated with the temporary closures. This has comprised the engagement of an accredited traffic controller to erect and remove temporary traffic signage and barriers and manage the operation of the temporarily closed section of Ocean Street as well as the cost of public liability insurance for the public spaces.

The MRA have advised that they are unable to continue to meet the costs of the regular temporary street closure beyond the current trial period. The proposed closure does not create a cost recovery opportunity for the MRA as it is not connected to a revenue earning event or market. The MRA is advocating for the regular street closures to activate Ocean Street for the benefit of the community and traders.

No other entities or individuals have been identified that would meet the cost of the street closures therefore the MRA is looking for council to do so on an ongoing basis.

In order to simplify the street closure process, council will consider funding a permanent installation comprising automatic bollards and message boards/signs and as such a proposal will be put to council in the 2016/17 budget process. The cost for the supply and installation of automatic bollards and signage is estimated to be in the order of \$90,000, however, will be subject to detailed design

This arrangement would reduce the time needed to establish and disestablish the street closure using barricading and warning signage although, an accredited traffic controller may still be required to manage the operation of the closed section of the street. The associated costs of operating the bollards will be put to council in the 2016/17 budget process.

Council did submit an application for grant funding through the Safer Streets Program for the purchase and installation of automatic bollards in Ocean Street to facilitate the ongoing closure of the street for markets and for night time closure, if approved by council. The grant application included the cost of purchase and installation at an estimated cost of \$90,000. Council has received advice that the grant application was unsuccessful.

The estimated cost for the engagement of a traffic controller, utility and signage is of the order of \$600 per night. (i.e. approximately \$62,400 per year for two nights per week). There could be an opportunity to outsource this at a much lower cost as one of the businesses hires security staff that are also certified for traffic management and their shift could be extended at the beginning and end of the night.

Consideration of funding the operational cost of managing the closed section of the street would need to be considered in council's budget amendment or development process.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>A strong community</i>
Outcome:	2.4 - People and places are connected
Operational Activity:	2.4.4 - Continue to implement actions in the Sustainable Transport Strategy 2011-2031 and Active Transport Plan 2011-2031

CONSULTATION

Consultation was undertaken through meetings between council officers, the divisional councillor and the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association. The Maroochydore Revitalisation Association also consulted with the Ocean Street precinct business.

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Economic Development and Innovation – Cr Robinson

Tourism, Events and Sport – Cr O'Pray

Internal Consultation

- **Infrastructure Services**
 - Director, Infrastructure Services
 - Manager, Transport Infrastructure Management
 - Coordinator, Traffic & Transportation
- **Community Services**
 - Coordinator, Community Land Permits & Parking
 - Coordinator, Community Planning & Strategy
 - Community Safety Officer
- **Strategy & Coordination**
 - Senior Policy Analyst
- **Corporate Services**
 - Manager, Property Management
- **Planning & Environment**
 - Coordinator, Regulated Planning & Advocacy
- **Divisional Councillor**
 - Division 8, Councillor Jason O'Pray

External Consultation

Maroochydore Revitalisation Association
Queensland Police Service
Queensland Ambulance Service
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Department of Transport and Main Roads, Regional Operations Passenger Transport Services

Community Engagement

The Maroochydore Revitalisation Association have prepared a report outlining the safety, economic and cultural impacts of the proposal which notes that there is significant support from the business community for the road closure and the majority of those consulted would like this to continue.

Council forwarded a separate survey to all 64 property owners and business proprietors in Ocean Street inviting feedback. 14 responses were received; 12 in support of the proposal and 2 objecting to the proposal.

The objections to the proposal comprised the following;

- No prior advice of trial closure
- No advice of extension of trial period
- No request for feedback from Ocean Street property owners
- Concerns regarding the process for council determination of road closure
- Restriction of communication to one stakeholder group
- Loss of legal street access to property
- Loss of on street car parking
- Increased noise due to activities in the street
- Loss of access by public to streetscape areas
- Wording of "road closed" signage inappropriate and discourages access outside of the periods of temporary closure
- Traffic infringements with taxis parking in no stopping area opposite taxi rank

In addition, council has received one customer request regarding the trial closure advising of objection to the closure due to the lack of parking on Ocean Street during the closure period and the messy condition of the street following the closures

Public notification of the proposed temporary road closure trial via the following means"

- A public announcement on the MRA Facebook page, published 13 March 2016
- A Council News Centre article published 14 March 2016
- A My Sunshine Coast Daily article and public opinion poll published 15 March 2016
- Sunshine Coast Daily article published 9 April 2016

The results of the Sunshine Coast Daily public opinion poll on the question of "should Ocean Street be closed to traffic on Friday and Saturday nights?" was as follows:

- 80% responded "Yes. It would make it more pleasant and safer on the busiest night of the week."
- 12% responded "No. People should be able to contain themselves to the footpaths."
- 6% responded that "It feels a bit weird driving down Ocean Street on busy nights anyway."

The total number of respondents to the Sunshine Coast Daily poll has not been reported.

PROPOSAL

Background

Ocean Street is a growing night time entertainment precinct and is becoming increasingly busy with new restaurants and other businesses. An opportunity to activate the street for families in the early evening for dining and other activities and for adults in the later evening within the entertainment precinct on Friday and Saturday nights is being proposed by the MRA. A recognised concern with the proposal is a risk for pedestrian and vehicle conflicts.

Since January 2015, 8 new restaurants have opened bringing the total to 14. Restaurants within the area have been consulted regarding their increased seating capacity and average seat turnover rates. It has been estimated that, at an average seating capacity of 50 patrons for two sittings per night, the increase in the number of restaurants may potentially attract an additional 800 people to Ocean Street each evening if the restaurants are at full capacity. In addition, many of the restaurants also have capacity for bar patrons, with some restaurants reporting 400 patrons on a peak evenings.

In April 2016 council approved a request from the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association (MRA) to begin a trial weekend night time closure of Ocean Street, between the roundabout at the entrance to the Big Top Shopping Centre and Duporth Avenue. The trial closure allowed full operation of the roundabout to continue. The closure was to be in place temporarily on Friday and Saturday nights each week between the hours of 5pm and 4am for a six week trial period beginning on 4 March and ending on 10 April.

Council subsequently agreed for the trial period to be extended to end on 27 November 2016 to allow further assessment and the preparation of a report to council regarding the outcome of the trial.

Temporary Street Closure Proposal

Traffic counts were undertaken in June 2015. The results indicated the following

- Average traffic volumes (8am – 6pm): 141 vehicles / hour and
- Average traffic volumes (6pm – 8am): 30 vehicles / hour.

The significant reduction in average traffic volumes in the evening indicates that the overall disruption to traffic due to the proposed temporary street closure is expected to be minor.

The temporary closure will be unlikely to impact on the traffic network arrangements for the time periods nominated on a Friday and Saturday as traffic circulation is still possible.

This reduction in evening traffic volumes, coupled with statistics released by the State Government that the Ocean Street Taxi Rank is the 4th busiest in Queensland suggests that a significant proportion of visitors to the precinct opt not to drive to and from the area.

The taxis operation will not be impacted on by the temporary closure.

Approximately 30 time limited parking spaces will be affected by the proposed temporary closure. There is a supply of nearby off street and on street public parking on Duporth Avenue, and at the Big Top Shopping Centre, that is considered sufficient for the night time demand for parking.

Benefits of Temporary Closure

Some of the benefits identified by the MRA of a weekly Friday and Saturday night closure of Ocean Street are:

- a regular weekly street closure provides the community and businesses with consistency regarding the accessibility impacts and the entertainment and cultural activities;
- activation of the street for families in the early evening and for adults later in the evening at the night club entertainment facilities

- opportunities to use the street for other cultural activities (e.g. music, markets and art)

During the trial the MRA prepared a report outlining the safety, economic and cultural impacts of the proposal which notes that there is significant support from the business community for the street closure and the majority of those consulted would like this to continue.

Some traders expressed that the street dining experience was vastly improved and that bookings had been higher in outdoor areas as opposed to indoor areas. As the trial has been run over winter, it is anticipated this will be improved during the summer months. Many traders in the street suggested that they would like to have Ocean Street closed at all times in the future.

The MRA states that some traders have indicated an interest in applying for an extended footpath dining area which would involve moving the dining area into the street.

Further, some traders advised the MRA that the trial nature of the existing Friday and Saturday night closures has limited the uptake of the initiative by businesses due to the cost of investing in extending the venue or purchase of furniture with no certainty of the length of time of the weekend night time closures.

The MRA advised that the police and the traders had welcomed the additional safety in the street from 5pm onwards and see this as a real benefit from the temporary closure of Ocean Street to traffic.

Economic modelling of the benefits to the Sunshine Coast economy, indicate that the projected increased dining capacity would increase the Gross Regional Product and job numbers by:

- \$1.6 million in outputs and 21 local jobs in the Food Retailing sector.
- \$4.21 million in outputs and 33 local jobs in total, when all industrial and consumption impacts are factored in.

Economic modelling is based on 4 restaurants on the southern side of the street seating 25 extra patrons at 2 sittings per night and 2 restaurants on the northern sides seating 15 extra patrons at 2 sittings per night; with an average spend of \$40, 3 nights a week, 52 weeks of the year.

Economic modelling was sourced through the National Institute of Economic and Industry research (NIEIR) as compiled and presented by .id the population experts.

(note: All \$ values are expressed in 2012/13 base year dollar terms.)

Trial Temporary Street Closure

The trial temporary street closure is currently undertaken each Friday and Saturday night from 5pm to 4am and the trial period is due to close on 27 November 2016.

The temporary street closure is actioned by the erection of advance warning signage at the west end of Ocean Street together with a "road closed" barrier board and witches hats at the east side of the roundabout at the access to the Big Top car park.

This precludes vehicles from accessing the temporarily closed section of Ocean Street.

Emergency Services vehicles are able to access the street by removing the temporary barrier and/or witches hats.

Vehicles which are parked along the temporarily closed section of Ocean Street remain in place. The vehicles are able to exit Ocean Street on to Duporth Avenue when required. This would not create an issue unless the space occupied by the parked vehicles impinged on a businesses extended outdoor dining area.

If the temporarily closed section of Ocean Street is proposed to be actively utilised, for example for musical events or art installations this would then require more active management of the temporarily closed section of the street to remove parked vehicles.

The section of Ocean Street proposed for temporary closure is signed for one way traffic west to east.

Should council approve the continuation of closure of the street it is considered that it be required that temporary barriers are also placed at the Duporth Avenue end of Ocean Street. This is not necessarily required from a traffic perspective given the signage of this section of Ocean Street as one way however it would better delineate the extent of the temporary road closure.

Feedback has been obtained from Queensland Police Service (QPS), Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) regarding the temporary closure. The services have no concerns subject to easy and quick access being available in an emergency situation.

Objections to Temporary Closure

The outcome of consideration of the points of objection to the temporary road closure proposal are as follows:

Temporary road closed signage.

It is agreed that wording of the signage could be improved to inform the public of the regular temporary road closure.

Messy condition of the street

The cleaning of the street is required as a condition of the permit for the use.

Loss of car parking

There is sufficient supply of nearby off street and on street public parking sufficient for the night time demand.

Activation of Ocean Street

Closure of Ocean Street on Friday and Saturday nights an ongoing basis will assist the impetus to activate this growing entertainment precinct and provide the opportunity for its increased usage for music and art and other cultural functions.

The closure would operate in addition to the existing approval for the monthly markets – Nights on Ocean Markets - which operate every second Friday of the month, from 5pm to 10pm.

The market operates under a Community Land Permit under Sunshine Coast Regional Council Local Law No 1(Administration) 2011 and Sunshine Coast Regional Council Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016.

This is the mechanism under which all event activities on council controlled lands, including temporary street closure, are approved. Similar regular events are held in King Street, Maroochydore, Bulcock Street, Caloundra, Nambour Tramway etc.

The permit includes such conditions as responsibility for management of the event including road closure and clean up as the responsibility of the permit holder.

As the proposed closure of Ocean Street at days / times outside of the monthly market is aimed at activating the area and providing a safer environment for the public and is not operated by a single entity, it is considered appropriate for council to close the street under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* (section 69 (2)).

If an event is planned to be conducted within the street closure, then the organiser would need to obtain a Community Land Permit and comply with any conditions, which would include clean-up of the street, following the event.

Capital Street Improvements

In order to simplify the road closure process, a proposal has been put forward to install automatic bollards and message boards/signs. No specific bollard system has been finalised, although they would be installed/activated when required and the message boards/signs would remain in place only readable when activated.

Council's streetscape project in Bulcock Street, Caloundra which is currently under construction, includes the installation of automatic bollards and electronic message boards. The details of these is currently being finalised. If circumstances allow a similar installation could occur at Ocean Street.

The cost for the supply and installation of the automatic bollards and signage is estimated to be in the order of \$90,000 however will be subject to detailed design, particularly in regard to adequate drainage and electrical supply.

If the ongoing closure of Ocean Street is sought by the MRA and approved by council, it is proposed that the closure be undertaken utilising temporary signage and witches hats as currently utilised for the trial period.

Legal

Council Legal Services have been consulted and have provided advice that, subject to appropriate considerations, road closures are permitted under the *Local Government Act 2009* should council consider it desirable to do so (refer section 69 (2)(c)).

Council Community Land Permits have been consulted and have confirmed that the temporary road closure, for the Markets – Nights on Ocean Street – operate under a Community Land Permit under *Sunshine Coast Regional Council Local Law No 1(Administration) 2011* and *Sunshine Coast Regional Council Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016*.

Policy

The authority to issue approvals for the activation of Ocean Street, Maroochydore during the temporary road closure is provided for under *Sunshine Coast Regional Council Local Law No 1(Administration) 2011* and *Sunshine Coast Regional Council Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016*.

The trial commenced in 2015/2016 under operational activity 3.4.1.2 of the 2015/2016 Corporate Plan "to progress local area planning and place development for Maroochydore (outside the priority development area)". Council commitment to place activation is contained in the 2016/2017 Corporate Plan 3.4.1.3 "implement a program of actions to enhance local amenity and place making".

Risk

Council Legal Services have been consulted and have advised that council is able to manage its liability for any risk by ensuring that all reasonable consideration has been given to the inherent risks of the temporary closure of the road.

Previous Council Resolution

There is no previous council resolution relevant to this report.

Related Documentation

There is no other relevant documentation related to this report.

Critical Dates

The approved extended date for the current trial temporary closure every Friday and Saturday evenings is to the 27 November 2016.

Implementation

Upon endorsement of this report by council it is proposed to;

1. meet with the MRA to seek the association's commitment to fund the temporary road closures for the balance of the 2016/17 financial years
2. hold discussions with MRA and Queensland Police Service regarding the operational procedure to be adopted to ensure a safe and cost effective temporary road closure, and
3. refer the consideration of funding for the permanent retractable bollards capital upgrade and associated operational funding to the 2017/18 budget deliberations.

8.6 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS

Nil

8.7 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO

8.7.1 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

File No: Council meetings
Author: Coordinator Corporate Planning and Performance
Office of the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council with information to enable a determination on the renewal or discontinuation of Council's current formalised agreements with international entities ('sister/friendship cities').

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sunshine Coast Councils' International Relations Policy (*"the Policy"*) provides for formalised agreements to be established with international entities, within a governance framework inclusive of goals, processes and protocols.

Four international agreements are currently in place under the Policy:

1. Tatebayashi, Japan (Sister City Agreement)
2. Fenland, England (Friendship City Agreement)
3. Xiamen, China (Friendship City Agreement)
4. Mont Dore, New Caledonia (Friendship City Agreement);

These relationships were originally developed to foster business, cultural and educational exchanges for the Sunshine Coast community. In addition, Council has been supportive of ongoing cooperation with Izumisano City in Japan which for the past 15 years has been sending student tours to the Sunshine Coast to participate in English classes and various cultural activities.

Council has committed undertake regular review of its interactions, engagements and relationships with international entities to ensure those arrangements are continuing to deliver on the intentions and outcomes outlined in the Policy. The Tatabayashi, Fenland and Xiamen agreements are currently due for renewal. The Mont Dore agreement is in place until 15 March 2018.

Accordingly, an organisation review of the four current agreements has been undertaken, taking into account:

- Historical and ongoing relationships with the existing international entities
- Benchmarking for comparison with other local authorities
- Research on contemporary practice and
- Assessment of the activities and engagement with the entities.

In summary, based on the review it is proposed that Council:

- Continue the existing arrangements with Tatebayashi and Xiamen, with particular acknowledgement of Council's long standing community linkages and friendships, including businesses, schools, community organisations and cultural groups.
- Continue the existing arrangements with Fenland, including progressing the Fenland District Council's suggestion to explore potential economic and trade opportunities. Particular acknowledgement is given to the long standing familial connection with this

region and the high regard and respect held both here and by the people of Fenland for Mr Jim Hocking and his sacrifice.

- Undertake further review and consultation with respect to the agreement with Mont Dore, cognisant of the agreement not being due to expire until 15 March 2018, however noting that no official activity with Sunshine Coast has occurred since the establishment of the Policy, and that to this point limited community to community connections in the area of culture, art and education have occurred since the Charter of Mutual Friendship was established.
- Prepare an assessment, in accordance with the criteria specified in the Policy, of the potential to provide support for student tours via the establishment of a targeted Memorandum of Understanding with Isumizano City Council, given the increased number of tours to the Sunshine Coast in 2016.

Further engagement with Council regarding the extent of engagement and support for activities associated with Council's international agreements is scheduled for discussion in the near future.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Review of Council's International Agreements"**
- (b) endorse the continuation of the existing government to government relationships to continue to reflect:**
 - (i) a Friendship City arrangement based on arts and cultural activities with the Tatebayashi Municipal government for a further 4 year period and**
 - (ii) a Friendship City arrangement based on arts and cultural activities with the Xiamen Municipal government for a further 4 year period and**
 - (iii) a Friendship City relationship based on historical significance with Fenland District Council for a further 4 year period and**
- (c) undertake further review and consultation with respect to the agreement with the Mont Dore Municipal Government.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There is no direct financial impact associated with the establishment, renewal or discontinuation of Council's existing international agreements. Administrative costs are included as part of Strategy and Coordination Branch core budget.

\$10,000 is budgeted for civic functions and gifts associated with official visits for 2016-2017.

Annual travel and accommodation, visas and transfer costs for council participants in international overseas delegations is included in the approved International Missions Program and budgeted accordingly. There were no official missions to Tatebayashi, Xiamen, Fenland or Mont Dore proposed in Council's International Missions Program for the 2016-17 financial year.

In addition, a grant of \$1800 relating to the 20th Anniversary Sister Cities Celebrations with Tatebayashi Japan was awarded to the Sunshine Coast Sister Cities Association (Grant ID MNCU154005 - May 2016 round).

CORPORATE PLAN

- Corporate Plan Goal:** *An outstanding organisation*
Outcome: 5.4 - Productive, professional partnerships
Operational Activity: 5.4.2 - Continue to enhance the region's and Council's reputation nationally and globally through strong partnerships and alliances
- Corporate Plan Goal:** **A new economy**
Outcome: 1.4 Strong local to global connections
Operational Activity: 1.4.1 Organise, undertake and report on the outcomes of, international investment, trade and export missions and manage incoming international delegations

CONSULTATION**Portfolio Councillor Consultation**

- Councillor Jenny McKay, Councillor assisting the Mayor in International relations and representative on the Sunshine Coast Sister Cities Association

Internal Consultation

- Chief Strategy Officer
- Executive Manager, Office of the Mayor and CEO
- Coordinator Corporate Performance and Planning
- Industry Investment Facilitator, Education and Training

External Consultation

- Sunshine Coast Sister Cities Association representatives Ms Lorraine See and Cr McKay who provided advice on the activities undertaken by the Sister Cities Association with Council's international partners
- Sunshine Pacific Consultancy on their approach to managing the Izumisano government relationship and international education delegations
- Cairns Council officers on that council's approach to managing international partnerships.
- Brisbane City Council officers on that council's approach to managing International Relations and management of requests for international partnerships.

Community Engagement

No community engagement has been undertaken.

PROPOSAL**Background**

Council has acknowledged the Sunshine Coast region needs to shift from a consumption-based economy to one that is outwardly focused, investment oriented and connected to global and emerging markets in order to achieve significant change in terms of investment in region-building infrastructure, enduring employment and prosperity. Sister cities and international alliances have traditionally provided the first approach to internationalising a city or destination.

International agreements may be used by Council as a tool to facilitate participation by an international entity in furthering Council's strategic economic policy objectives; and/or key projects, relationships and/or partnerships that have economic and associated social and cultural benefits for the region. However, Council may also support associated cultural and

community initiatives that facilitate the community’s broader cultural awareness and appreciation where this better enables the achievement of economic outcomes for this region.

There are four categories of international agreement that Council may consider in establishing a formal relationship with an international entity:

- Sister City Agreement
- Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement
- Strategic Partnership Agreement
- Memorandum of Understanding

At the present time, Sunshine Coast Council has one Sister City relationship and three Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreements. These relationships were originally entered into to foster business, cultural and educational exchanges for the Sunshine Coast community.

Within the scope of Council’s current agreements, the activities that can fall within Council’s international partnerships are outlined in the table below. Further engagement with Council regarding the nature, scope and level of support for activities that may fall within Council’s international partnerships has been scheduled for discussion in the near future.

International Partnership Activities

<p>Cultural (Community based)</p> <p>Visual and performing arts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • performances • exhibitions • competitions • study tours <p>Educational initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • student exchanges • class room interaction through video links • English language <p>Sporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student/coach exchanges • International competitions
<p>Economic (Investment and Trade)</p> <p>Activities driven by the Regional Economic Development Strategy which contribute to building the New Economy for the Sunshine Coast:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strong leadership — that embraces partnerships, is agile and determined to succeed • capital investment — in essential infrastructure to support growth and competitiveness • high-value industries — that generate enduring employment • local to global connections — to markets where the region has a clear competitive advantage • talent and skills — of its workforce and its community members. <p>Strategies focus on developing 7 high value industries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health and well-being • education and research • professional services and knowledge industries • tourism, sport and leisure • agribusiness • clean technologies and • aviation and aerospace.

Development and Capacity Building (Government/ Aid Agencies/Universities)
--

Provision of:

- Knowledge and capacity building programs
- Study tours
- Training and mentoring programs

Following the implementation of the International Relations Policy, Council has continued to provide support for its international partners as per the specifications in the signed international agreements, however Council's focus has prioritised official obligations in relation to delegations and economic activities.

In addition to the official activities undertaken by Council, the community based cultural activities and ad hoc opportunities associated with Council's international partnerships have been supported by the Sunshine Coast Sister Cities Association. The Sunshine Coast Sister Cities Association continues to play an active role in Council's international relationships with Xiamen, Tatebayashi and Mont Dore by supporting cultural and educational exchanges.

Refer to **Appendix 1** for the summary of official activities undertaken by Council and its international partners since the implementation of the International Relations Policy.

Council has not been involved in any development and capacity building projects in association with any of its international partnerships since the implementation of the International Relations Policy in 2014, however has recently provided limited support to The University of the Sunshine Coast (Global Projects Office) for its international development and capacity building projects, largely focused in Indonesia, Timor-Leste and the Pacific region.

Benchmarking

The recent release of the research report titled; *"Sister Cities and International Alliances. Can and should Australian local governments play an expanded role?"* provided a snapshot of activities undertaken, and the various models assumed to manage international relationships, by Councils across Australia.

The report defines and investigates the cultural, social, economic and structural dimensions of local government engagement in international alliances and to assist local governments seeking an expanded international role and provided the following insights into local government international alliances;

- Nearly 30% of Australian councils have a sister city, friendship city of similar relationship with a local, district or regional government in another country
- There is no formal collection of information of these relationships either at national or jurisdictional level by government agencies or local government groups
- The most common activities undertaken in relationships are;
 1. Educational and student exchanges (60%)
 2. Cultural and Art exchanges (49%)
 3. Trade and business Development (26%)
 4. Community Development (6%)

The report also highlighted the continued recognition by councils of an increasing divergence between the cultural aspects of traditional sister city relationships and the investment and trade aspects of more recent international relations activities. A number of councils have or are currently reviewing their international relations model and there is general acknowledgement that a majority of councils are in a similar position in facing the demands of economic development and traditional cultural alliances many of which are long standing.

Australian Statistical Snapshot

Of Australia's 556 Councils, only 161 (29%) councils participate in 392 international Relationships. Australian councils have relationships with councils in 47 Countries, however only 5 of these countries account for nearly 70% of the total number of current relationships;

- Japan
- China
- USA
- Italy
- Timor-Leste

More importantly Japan and China account for over 46% of the relationships. Council has long standing relationships with cities in both Japan and China.

Whilst there has been considerable variety across international relationships entered into by Australian Councils, there is a trend away from relationships which embrace the 'traditional' sister city movement themes of peace, reconstruction and reconciliation through a focus on civic, cultural and educational exchanges, to relationships which have a much stronger emphasis on economic development and trade.

The report found a clear link between the emphasis on economic development and trade with international "partners" and the rise of partnerships with Chinese cities, and to a lesser extent, those in South Korea. However, it would be considered unrealistic in most cases to assume that these areas of economic development and trade can be a sole focus of new relationships as in many countries there is a preference for well-rounded partnerships including cultural and social ties.

The current trend is for Australian councils to be approached by councils in China to host Chinese local government delegations, either directly or more commonly via a third party (consultant, local business representatives or other government contact). This has been the experience of Sunshine Coast Council in the previous two years during which time Council received approaches from Xiamen Municipal Overseas and Foreign Affairs office, Trade and Invest Queensland and Australian based consultants and legal/professional services firms to host Chinese government delegations on the Sunshine Coast.

The value of international relationships:

The research report notes that: *"The key characteristics of successful International relationships are a spirit of reciprocity from both parties and local community understanding of the value of international relationships. In addition full council and governance support, and an active community-based committee structure are essential to the development and maintenance of successful international relationships."*

However the report also highlights that:

- Successful relationships require more than an enthusiastic champion, experiences should be shared with the wider community and council organization
- There is a need for regular face to face visits when establishing business oriented connections
- Openness and transparency are essential across the range of international activities.

It should be recognised that whilst connections made by an individual (either an elected official or a senior council officer who is enthusiastic about forming international relationships) are important, they can make the mistake of neglecting to share those experiences with the wider community and council organisation. It is important for councils to be open and transparent about what they believe to be the value of an international partnership.

The report also outlined that Mayors, Councillors, the community and staff at all levels should be involved in the relationship to ensure that it is not viewed as an elite activity for the Mayor, Councillors and executive staff only. There has been recent commentary in international

media on what has been termed “vanity” trips during which it is suggested that elected officials use tax payers’ resources to promote themselves abroad. Continued openness and communication to the community regarding the objectives and outcomes of each of council’s officially endorsed international engagement is essential to recognition of the value of each relationship.

Legal

Current international relationship agreements are not legally binding. They are a mechanism to allow two entities to work together.

All revised and/or future international agreements or contracts will be subject to legal review before being signed.

Policy

A parameter under the International Relations Policy Framework is that “12. All international agreements must have a nominated review date of between three and five years. If an existing international agreement does not contain a nominated review date, then the review date shall be three years from the date of the agreement.”

Risk

There are no significant risks associated with approving the proposed renewal or discontinuation of council’s international agreements. The International Relations Policy provides a robust governance framework to assess, manage and mitigate potential risks to Council and its reputation as a result of its participation in international relations.

Previous Council Resolutions

Special Meeting held on 18 February 2014 (SM 14/1) – International Relations Policy and International Relations Review

That Council:

- a) *Receive and note the report titled “**International Relations Policy and 2014 Sunshine Coast International Missions Program**”*
- b) *Approve the International Relations Policy (Appendix A)*
- c) *Approve the 2014 International Missions Program (Appendix B) and*
- d) *Approve the overseas travel identified in the 2014 Sunshine coast International Missions program (Appendix B), with \$35,000 of cost to be met from the 2013/2014 budget for Strategy and coordination and an amount of \$37,000 be included in Council’s 2014/2015 budget*

Council resolved on 31 January 2013 (OM13/11) as follows:

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “Sunshine Coast International Business Development Program”;*
- (b) *note the Plan of Action activities in Appendix A for 2012-2013 will be delivered within the current budget allocation for trade and export development in the Economic Development Branch budget, with a portion of this budget likely to be carried over to 2013-2014 to facilitate completion of activities commenced in the current financial year;*
- (c) *note that the budget allocation for trade and export development was a one-off allocation approved as part of the development of the 2012-2013 council budget and that funding for the continuation of the Sunshine Coast International Business Development Program in the balance of the 2013-2014 year and subsequent financial years will need to be considered as part of deliberations on the 2013-2014 and subsequent budgets;*

- (d) *approve that the Mayor be authorised to travel to China in April 2013 to participate in a proposed Queensland Government Investment Mission and to visit Xiamen to support and target business investment opportunities for the region;*
- (e) *approve that Councillor McKay be authorised to travel to Xiamen, China in April 2013 as part of the visit by the Mayor to support and target business investment opportunities for the region;*
- (f) *approve that the cost of the overseas travel by the Mayor and Councillor McKay (inclusive of flights, accommodation, transfers and insurances) to be met from the existing budget allocation for trade and export development in the 2012-2013 Economic Development Branch budget; and*
- (g) *note that, subject to approval of (d) and (e) above, the Chief Executive Officer will approve one council officer to accompany the Mayor on the overseas visit to China.*

Council resolved on 27 June 2013 (SM13/22) as follows:

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “**Key Investment and Business Development Events and Activities in Asia - September 2013**”*
- (b) *approve that the Mayor be authorised to undertake overseas travel to Taiwan, Xiamen and Hong Kong in September 2013 to participate in the Asia Pacific Cities Summit, the China International Fair for Investment and Trade and undertake specific investment meetings - with that part of the cost of the overseas travel that is not covered by other parties to be met from the 2013-2014 Economic Development Branch budget and*
- (c) *note that, subject to approval of (b) above, the Chief Executive Officer will approve one council officer to accompany the Mayor in travelling to Taiwan, Xiamen and Hong Kong in September 2013.*

Council resolved on 19 September 2013 (OM13/191) as follows:

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “Draft Economic Development Strategy”*
- (b) *endorse the “Sunshine Coast – The Natural Advantage – Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033” (Appendix A) and the associated Research Compendium (Appendix B)*
- (c) *approve the “Sunshine Coast – The Natural Advantage – Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033” replacing the “Sunshine Coast Economic Development Strategy 2010-2014”*
- (d) *delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Mayor, to make any minor amendments as required to finalise the “Sunshine Coast – The Natural Advantage – Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033” for public release prior to the end of September 2013*
- (e) *approve the formation of a regional economic leadership board referred to in the “Sunshine Coast – The Natural Advantage – Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033”, with its functions to include:*
 - i. guiding the transitions to, and building the identity of, a new economy*
 - ii. overseeing the progress of the Implementation Plan for the Strategy*
 - iii. assessing progress in the delivery of the Strategy to ensure outcomes and performance measures are met*
 - iv. providing key advice and intelligence to inform, guide and enable delivery of specific actions and*

- v. *advocating the region's competitive strengths to secure new investment*
- (f) *delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to develop with business and industry groups represented on the Sunshine Coast Economic Development Strategy Taskforce, an appropriate governance and operating model for the regional economic leadership board for further consideration by council.*

Ordinary Meeting held on 4 February 2010 (OM10/008) - International Relations Review

That Council defer a decision on the International Relations Review until the next round of Council meetings to enable the Chief Executive Officer to meet and have discussions with the Sunshine Coast Sister Cities Community Association in the context of this report."

Ordinary Meeting 19 June 2008 (OM08/58) – Review of memberships on Council and community committees.

That Council:

- (a) *note the report by the Regional Director Governance and Executive Project Officer reviewing Councillor membership of Council and Community Committees as presented to the Organisation Performance Committee dated 10 June 2008;*
- (b) *adopt Attachments 1, 2 and 3 to the report defining the Committees and Associations to which Council will retain a Councillor representation and the appointment of representatives to each Committee and amend Attachment 2 to include Councillor Dwyer as a member of the Sunshine Coast Events Centre Pty Ltd as Divisional Councillor and that Attachment 2 be amended to further substitute at number 13 Councillor Blumel for Councillor Thompson, and at number 14, Councillor Tatton for Councillor Blumel, and at number 38, Hastings Street Design Working Group, Councillor Blumel be replaced with Councillor Green;*
- (c) *advise all Committees and Associations listed in Attachment 1 of Council's decision regarding ongoing Councillor membership; and*
- (d) *request the Chief Executive Officer to facilitate a review and report to Council on the appropriateness of the strategies, structures and committees for the whole of Council including specifically:*
- (i) *Economic Development and Business;*
- (ii) *Tourism;*
- (iii) *Environment; and*
- (iv) *Youth Services".*

Related Documentation

- Sunshine Coast Council, Corporate Plan, 2014-2016
- Sunshine Coast: The Natural Advantage – Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033.
- *"Sister Cities and International Alliances. Can and should Australian local governments play an expanded role?"* Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government, December 2015
- Hobart City Council, International Relations Strategy-FILE REFS: 10-6-1 & 14-2-2, Economic Development and Communications Committee meeting (open portion of the meeting) Agenda. Item 8 pp17-50, Thursday, 28 April 2016.
- Cairns Regional Council, Sister Cities Policy, No.1:06:21 Adopted 07/03/2012

- Queensland Trade and Investment Strategy 2011-2016
- China, Towards 2016, Tourism and Events Queensland
- Draft International Education and Training Strategy to Advance Queensland 2016-2026, Trade and Invest Queensland

Critical Dates

In line with the Policy, renewal or termination of council's existing international agreements will be commenced on the following dates:

- Xiamen – immediately
- Tatebayashi – immediately
- Fenland – immediately
- Mont Dore – March 2018

Implementation

Implementation will include:

1. Formal advice to all existing Sister City and Friendship Agreement governments to inform Council's decision.
2. Formal advice to Sunshine Coast Sister Cities Association.
3. Update to Council's website and customer service scripts.

8.7.2 AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING 5 OCTOBER 2016

File No:	Council meetings
Author:	Manager Audit and Assurance Office of the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	Att 1 - Minutes Audit Committee 5 October 2016353

PURPOSE

To provide Council with information on matters reviewed at the Audit Committee Meeting held 5 October 2016 (*Section 211 Local Government Regulation 2012*) and make recommendation to Council on any matters that the Audit Committee considers need action or improvement (*Section 105 of the Local Government Act 2009*).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Audit Committee is a mandatory Advisory Committee of Council established in accordance with Section 105 of the *Local Government Act 2009*. The Committee is comprised of Mr Peter Dowling (External Chair), Mr Len Scanlan (External Member), Cr Tim Dwyer and Cr Christian Dickson.

The Audit Committee agenda was distributed electronically to all Councillors on 30 September 2016 which specifically addressed the results of the Queensland Audit Office's review of Council's draft financial statements including financial sustainability prior to statement certification.

As reported by the Queensland Audit Office, an unmodified audit opinion is to be issued and there were no additional internal control and financial reporting issues raised. The financial statement preparation was assessed as good and the internal controls were assessed as effective. Both assessments are the highest ratings provided by the Audit Office.

The Audit Committee expressed that Council and Management be complimented on the solid financial result and the excellent audit result.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report titled "Audit Committee Meeting 5 October 2016".

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are no finance and resourcing issues associated with 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**

Cr Tim Dwyer

Internal Consultation

Director Corporate Services

External Consultation

External members of the Audit Committee.

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement.

PROPOSAL

The Audit Committee is a mandatory Advisory Committee which meets four times each year and is established in accordance with *Section 105 Local Government Act 2009*. The Committee has no delegated authority and is a source of independent advice to Council and to the Chief Executive Officer.

The Committee is comprised of Mr Peter Dowling (External Chair), Mr Len Scanlan (External Member), Cr Tim Dwyer and Cr Christian Dickson. The Audit Committee agenda was distributed electronically to all Councillors.

The overall objective of the Audit Committee is to assist the Council and the Chief Executive to discharge their duties, in particular:

- Corporate Governance and responsibilities in relation to the organisation's financial reporting, internal control structure, risk management systems and the external and internal audit functions
- maintain an independent and objective forum promoting transparency, accountability and an ethical culture throughout council
- maintain by scheduling regular meetings, open lines of communications with Council, Executive Management, External Audit and Internal Audit, to exchange information and views
- oversee and appraise the quality and efficiency of audits conducted by both the Internal and External Audit functions and
- ensure both the Internal and External Audit functions are independent and effective.

In accordance with *Section 211 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Audit Committee must provide Council with a written report about the matters reviewed at the Audit Committee Meeting and make recommendation to Council on any matters that the Audit Committee considers need action or improvement (*Section 105 of the Local Government Act 2009*).

The matters reviewed at the 5 October 2016 Audit Committee Meeting were as follows.

External Audit Reports

- Draft 2015/16 Financial Statements, and
- Queensland Audit Office Closing Report to the Audit Committee for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

Legal

There are no legal implications with this report

Policy

Compliance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Risk

There were no material risks identified by the Queensland Audit Office.

Previous Council Resolution

Audit Committee and Internal Audit Charters were endorsed at Council Ordinary Meeting 16 June 2016.

Related Documentation

Audit Committee Agenda for 5 October 2016 was issued to Councillors 30 September 2016.

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates associated with this report.

Implementation

Implementation of both the Audit Committee resolutions and the internal and external audit recommendations are monitored by the Audit Committee.

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

11.1.1 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - INTERIM PARKING ARRANGEMENTS

File No: Traffic and Transport

Author: Coordinator Transport Strategy and Policy
Planning and Environment 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.

11.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

**11.2.1 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - QUARTERLY
PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2016/2017**

File No: Statutory Meeting
Author: Manager Corporate Governance
Corporate Services Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (f) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to starting or defending legal proceedings involving the local government.

11.3 COMMUNITY SERVICES

Nil

11.4 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Nil

11.5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS

Nil

11.6 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO

Nil

12 NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on 8 December 2016 in the Council Chambers, Corner Currie and Bury Streets, Nambour.

13 MEETING CLOSURE