



Community Survey 2005 Appendix A

A research report prepared for

Kempsey Shire Council

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Comments

Q1a. Do you think that the development of the local economy is beneficial to Kempsey Shire?

Q1b. (If yes), how?

▪ Creates more employment	57
▪ New industries and businesses are improving the Shire	31
▪ More money into Kempsey	30
▪ Population growth	24
▪ Economy is growing and good for local people	16
▪ Brings improved services	16
▪ Council will have more income to spend on infrastructure	9
▪ More shops, parking and businesses means our money would stay here	8
▪ Everything is progressing	7
▪ Any development is good for Kempsey	5
▪ Creates work and employment for the youth	5
▪ New developments	4
▪ Housing development needs to be looked into	3
▪ Improved shopping	3
▪ Raises the profile of the town	3
▪ Sub development is the best way of improving the area	3
▪ Good for tourism	2
▪ Infrastructure has to grow for increase in population	2
▪ Moving out of city looking to rural areas	2
▪ New housing developments means more business	2
▪ They've got to encourage businesses such as King Gee and manufacturers to come to town to help our economy	2
▪ Understaffed in the health and subdivision area	2
▪ Without development the town will die	2
▪ As long as we don't get caught up in industries which will pollute our environment or cause problems later	1
▪ Bigger employers needed into the Shire	1
▪ Creates more things to do	1
▪ Hopefully it creates employment and lifts the standard of living	1
▪ If the businesses are doing all right its better for the town, more people in jobs	1
▪ In my opinion the Council only let things go through that are of benefit to people on the Council	1
▪ In small ways but not in a big way	1
▪ It is bringing more industrialists to the area and they're bringing industry and expertise with them	1
▪ It is supporting the community with money going back in and allowing a better future and opportunities	1
▪ More competitive with our neighbours	1
▪ More we develop the more we can prosper	1
▪ Ongoing support for our businesses in town such as Akubra	1
▪ Provide more services for the aged and young	1
▪ Providing work by expansion, entrepreneurs, tourism	1
▪ The more resources in the community the better	1
▪ There's not enough going on to employ residents and help the economy	1
▪ They don't do enough to fix the industrial estate	1
▪ We've got lots of factories, we grow our own vegetables and this creates dollars for our town	1

Q2a. Do you believe that the nature of development in the Shire will improve the quality of life within the Shire?

Q2b. (If yes), how?

▪ More employment means an improved quality of life	41
▪ Improvement and introduction of new amenities/facilities and services provided	21
▪ Improvements/developments will better the economy	10
▪ Increase of residents	6
▪ More money coming in which means more opportunities	6
▪ More activities	5
▪ More shops	5
▪ We need new and modern affordable housing to encourage young people to move here	5
▪ Depends on the nature of the development. The Correction Centre isn't improving the quality of life	4
▪ More attractive place to live	4
▪ Business brings in prosperity and means the town has business facilities so we don't have to travel to other towns	3
▪ By controlled development	3
▪ Good development will bring educated people	3
▪ Happier community	3
▪ If development is sensible and we keep the natural beauty of the town we'll be right. If we start tarring beach roads, we're likely to end up like the Gold Coast	3
▪ It brings more money and more businesses into the town	3
▪ Crescent Head shouldn't be developed any further	2
▪ Encourage tourism	2
▪ If economy improves spending will increase and make for a more prosperous town	2
▪ Industry needs to be encouraged to come to the Shire	2
▪ Infrastructure has to be of a good standard for people to stay here	2
▪ Keeping the younger people in town	2
▪ More benefits to the people	2
▪ Only if Council develops the whole Shire, e.g. road works etc.	2
▪ We don't want it to become overdeveloped. Kempsey is good the way it is now	2
▪ As long as we don't end up being a concrete jungle like Port Macquarie	1
▪ At the moment it is not safe to walk around in the dark so with more people we will get more police and hospitals which will improve their services	1
▪ Building up the education in schools	1
▪ Community centres	1
▪ Council growing too rapidly	1
▪ Financially	1
▪ It is making the Shire bigger	1
▪ It needs to catch up to other areas	1
▪ Kempsey bridge gardens are causing driving difficulties because the trucks can't see	1
▪ Kempsey Shire works within the community to help people in need	1
▪ Made access for the elderly a lot better	1
▪ More people coming in means more spending in the area and we grow	1

Continued on the following page

Q2a. Do you believe that the nature of development in the Shire will improve the quality of life within the Shire?

Q2b. (If yes), how? (Cont'd)

▪ More variety needs to be introduced	1
▪ Organisations will get bigger and better	1
▪ South West Rocks is getting too crowded	1
▪ Stimulation for the locals	1
▪ The children need to be trained for work in local area	1
▪ The town is in need of a facelift and new ideas. New people will bring new ideas	1
▪ There would be more money for Council to spend in areas that need attention such as water, sewerage and road works	1
▪ There's not many places for kids to go and if there were more places for them to go it would stop a lot of the crime	1
▪ They have all been positive things so far but we need more things for the youth	1
▪ They might start spending money on the Kempsey Hospital	1
▪ They need a bit of forward thinking. Port Macquarie is a much better town	1
▪ They're trying very hard to improve the quality of life for us but it's very hard	1
▪ Variety of people is excellent	1
▪ Where I live, they've opened a road to build more homes and it has become an 80-km/h zone, which is very dangerous. We get people speeding and driving dangerously down the road	1
▪ With more development they might consider more recycling	1

Q3b. What should Council do to ensure that the Shire grows in a positive way?

▪ Attract more industry and business	53
▪ Improved maintenance of current infrastructure (e.g. roads, parks etc)	40
▪ Be open minded and listen to the people - community consultation	38
▪ Avoid overdevelopment/ensure quality development	30
▪ Don't know	17
▪ Look after the environment	7
▪ Do something about the dreadful High School. There is no order in that school. There is no respect for teachers and no respect for pupils. If we want the Shire to grow, we need a decent school so residents will stay	1
▪ Ensure that Kempsey is easily accessible	1
▪ Ensure tourist attractions and our beaches are kept nicely maintained	1
▪ Establish a uniqueness	1
▪ Find ways to create more child care placements for those who want to return to studies	1
▪ Fix the Indigenous issues	1
▪ Foster better attitudes	1
▪ Grafton and Taree are much better Councils than ours	1
▪ Have a new Council every 12 months	1
▪ I don't want Kempsey to grow	1
▪ I think the Council needs to stop knocking back things that should go ahead	1
▪ Keep it a country town	1
▪ Keep the business area working with the police and keep the undesirables out	1
▪ Keep things close enough for people to get to and enough parking	1
▪ Leave things alone a bit more and stick to their knitting	1
▪ Less talk and more action	1
▪ Look after the aged and the young	1
▪ Look after the people	1
▪ Look at each thing in a positive way	1
▪ Mainly look after the retailers	1
▪ Make sure the town is kept clean	1
▪ Make sure there is no corruption within the Council	1
▪ Make the rates better and improve the garbage service	1
▪ Making sure that resources that are handed out are going to be beneficial to the community	1
▪ Modernise it a bit more	1
▪ Monitor who moves to the area	1
▪ More development studies	1
▪ More marketing	1
▪ More positive influences	1
▪ More security	1
▪ Need people on Council who aren't pushing their own barrows. The makeup of Council in the 60 odd years I've been here is they only get on Council if they want a road in front of their place or cheap water for their factory, a thousand different things	1
▪ Need some duplex style homes built where people can retire to	1

Continued on the following page

Q3b. What should Council do to ensure that the Shire grows in a positive way? (Cont'd)

▪ Need to assist residents in have a good quality of life	1
▪ No improvement to policies	1
▪ Not so many business people on Council, so there is more competition	1
▪ Not to become an area where there is either housing commission or unemployed people wanting to stay here, people need to contribute to the area	1
▪ Plan for the future	1
▪ Provide recreation facilities	1
▪ Put more incentive on employers	1
▪ Put more money into improving the airport	1
▪ Shouldn't promote housing for low-income people	1
▪ Start maintaining people who live more than 2 kilometres out of town	1
▪ Start to split land up in the valley	1
▪ Streets need to be cleaned in East Kempsey. The gum tree fills up the drains in East Kempsey and more needs to be done	1
▪ Support for the residents that are already here	1
▪ Take care of the area	1
▪ There is still a block of land that's not being used	1
▪ They should encourage local shopping	1
▪ To do all the things that they promise	1
▪ To welcome people that want to come to the town	1
▪ Too picky at the moment towards anyone that wants to do anything, Council makes it difficult	1
▪ Tourism a must	1
▪ Tourism facilities by river need to be updated	1
▪ Try not to lose any of its old basic services, like the airport	1
▪ Try to find a solution to lessen the problem	1
▪ Use the dollar in the most economical way	1
▪ Workers on the Shire are pretty lazy in East Kempsey	1
▪ Young people need to contribute to the town more	1

Q4. What steps do you think we can take to encourage young people to stay within our Shire?

▪ Attract more industry and business/employment	257
▪ Improve/create services, facilities, activities	69
▪ Better education/training	27
Other	40
▪ No suggestions	4
▪ Incentives	2
▪ Offer more opportunities	2
▪ Tourism	2
▪ A more positive approach is needed	1
▪ Indigenous youth to be more involved in national parks and wildlife projects	1
▪ Cut unemployment benefits and make them get jobs	1
▪ Don't know but there's a lot of trouble	1
▪ Drop the crime rate	1
▪ Find a window in the sky so they can reach their goal	1
▪ Get rid of the theft	1
▪ Have youth forums	1
▪ Higher wages for workers	1
▪ It has to be a positive place to stay	1
▪ Keep growing the town	1
▪ Keep them off the streets	1
▪ Kempsey is the cheapest place for real estate in NSW so there's not much potential for growth	1
▪ Make it a nicer place to be	1
▪ Make Kempsey more desirable, there are no jobs, no sense of hope, young kids don't see a future in Kempsey	1
▪ More community involvement provided	1
▪ More housing	1
▪ More local development	1
▪ More shops	1
▪ Nothing here for young people	1
▪ Provide extra enterprise	1
▪ Provide more child care placements for families	1
▪ Provide more incentives such as reduced rates for 10 years	1
▪ Race problem stops Kempsey going ahead	1
▪ Start looking after the young ones	1
▪ Support the local area a lot more	1
▪ Survey the children in school and find out what they want	1
▪ Talk with them more about what they want	1
▪ The police we have should have more authority	1
▪ There is no money here for the young people. They get better money in Sydney. Real estate is going up and the local people can't afford to buy a house	1

Q5a. Do you believe that the town of Kempsey is welcoming and a good place to visit?

Q5b. (If yes), why

▪ Friendly people/place	112
▪ Beautiful area/beaches/countryside	75
Other	82
▪ A better lifestyle	1
▪ A fair bit of entertainment in the area	1
▪ Loiterers in the mall are upsetting the visitors to Kempsey	1
▪ Aged pensioner and the town has everything the area has to offer	1
▪ Always been the bottom end of the stick and more people are coming in so it will grow and improve	1
▪ Any other day is okay except pension day	1
▪ Can buy nearly anything you want in Kempsey	1
▪ Central to freshwater and 15 minutes to the beach	1
▪ Close to beaches	1
▪ Could do with some prettying up	1
▪ Country atmosphere but the inter social issues are present here	1
▪ Doubtful, because of the stigma that goes with the town	1
▪ Everyone enjoys shopping in a relaxed atmosphere	1
▪ Everyone knows me here	1
▪ Everything that is desired is there	1
▪ Facilities are growing rapidly	1
▪ For some people	1
▪ Good climate	1
▪ Good services are provided	1
▪ Great place to visit if you don't want a big city	1
▪ Had no trouble really, only one break-in	1
▪ Has a lot to offer people	1
▪ Has the old fashioned way	1
▪ I grew up here and I think it's a good place to be	1
▪ I work at the Tourist Information Centre and it takes the police a half an hour to get there when someone is robbed	1
▪ I've been here all my life and I'm happy with it	1
▪ If shops have not got it they will get it in	1
▪ It grows on you after time	1
▪ It has more character	1
▪ It is progressing	1
▪ It's as good as anywhere else	1
▪ It's half way between Sydney and Brisbane and it's a good town to visit	1
▪ It's not too big and not too small	1
▪ It's not too over-developed and you get the small town country feel when you are here	1
▪ It's not welcoming for some people but for others it is	1
▪ It's situated ideally between Sydney & Brisbane and is perfect for a stopover	1
▪ I've always lived here and like it and always see visitors enjoy it	1

Continued on the following page

Q5a. Do you believe that the town of Kempsey is welcoming and a good place to visit?

Q5b. (If yes), why? (Cont'd)

Other (Cont'd)	
▪ I've lived here all my life and I'm probably biased	1
▪ I've lived here for 18 years and it's so relaxed and easy going	1
▪ I've never had any problems or troubles since I've been living here	1
▪ Kempsey has the best of everything	1
▪ Lots of entertainment within Kempsey	1
▪ Lots of people come here	1
▪ Lots to do and see	1
▪ Main thing is our beaches	1
▪ Minutes from the beaches	1
▪ More sporting facilities	1
▪ Most of the time, it's welcoming for visitors but there is a lot of racial conflicts that make it unpleasant	1
▪ Most people enjoy living here	1
▪ No hustle or bustle	1
▪ Not far from beaches	1
▪ Nothing to hold interests	1
▪ People like being here	1
▪ Plenty for visitors to do	1
▪ Plenty of country things to do, the wineries and the beaches	1
▪ Plenty of social activities and things for people to do, places to get to know one another, clubs, church, craft mornings	1
▪ Plenty of things to do like surfing fishing, touring up river	1
▪ Progressing okay	1
▪ So much to see, go to the sea or go up river, tourist wise	1
▪ Sometimes there's been elements of security that has driven people away	1
▪ South Kempsey tourist area has had problems with young people	1
▪ Stop off point	1
▪ The seaside resorts are okay but the town centre is not welcoming	1
▪ The service in business and retailing is better than other towns around	1
▪ The tourist industry is good here	1
▪ The weather	1
▪ There are too many robberies occurring and cars being broken into	1
▪ There is a lot for people to do	1
▪ There's plenty of accommodation	1
▪ There's plenty of tourism areas to be explored	1
▪ There's so much here for people to do and see	1
▪ Too much crime, if this was amended it would be a good place	1
▪ We have a lot to offer	1
▪ We have a lovely lifestyle and a beautiful climate	1

Continued on the following page

Q5a. Do you believe that the town of Kempsey is welcoming and a good place to visit?

Q5b. (If yes), why? (Cont'd)

Other (Cont'd)	
▪ We have country peace	1
▪ We visited here and decided to stay	1
▪ We've got everything here for people with our beaches and a better lifestyle to bring kids up	1
▪ We're close to Port Macquarie if you need anything major	1
▪ We're very tourist oriented and always welcome tourist dollars	1
▪ Wider range of sporting activities	1
▪ Yes and No. There are a lot of people getting robbed near the museum all the time but most people say Kempsey is a great place to visit and live	1
▪ Yes in daylight, no at night. You would get bashed to death	1

Q5c. (If no), why?

▪ Crime	21
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Other		49
▪ As you drive through if there were more places to pull over and stop so that you could explore the area, more parks	1	
▪ Beautification scheme would be nice	1	
▪ Could do with more cleaning up	1	
▪ Council should have a real good look around for themselves	1	
▪ Council's handling of the roads is inadequate	1	
▪ Has no character	1	
▪ Have never found it very welcoming in terms of the Shires attitude towards what people want to do. Kempsey Shire can be very backward in their attitude to assisting people, but there are nice places to visit	1	
▪ Highway goes on the outskirts so there is no need to come in. Should be able to swim and fish along the riverbanks. Do more to promote the surf industry in the area	1	
▪ Highway going through the town is not good	1	
▪ I don't like going to Kempsey. I prefer to stay at South West Rocks. Kempsey doesn't have a positive feel about it	1	
▪ I find it very depressing	1	
▪ I have heard people say that it is unpleasant to go to town especially at night. People hang around the information centre and visitors get mugged and their cars get kicked in and broken into	1	
▪ Loiterers make it unpleasant	1	
▪ Isn't really much for visitors in Kempsey itself	1	
▪ It has not changed in 20 years	1	
▪ It's not really a tourist town	1	
▪ It's a bit grotty and the grass isn't mowed very often	1	
▪ It's dead. The look of the place is quite drab	1	
▪ It's not a pretty town - it's really ugly	1	
▪ Kempsey doesn't have a very good feel about it at all	1	
▪ Kempsey has racial problems that need to be addressed	1	
▪ Lack of mowing within the Shire	1	

Continued on the following page

Q5a. Do you believe that the town of Kempsey is welcoming and a good place to visit?

Q5c. (If no), why?

Other (Cont'd)	
▪ Lack of police	1
▪ Need to beautify the area more particularly along Lord St. Cemeteries need some work too	1
▪ Not enough is being done to rectify the situation with certain sections of the community and their negative behaviour	1
▪ Not much for people to do here	1
▪ Not so much a tourist town as highway passes through. People tend to stay at Port Macquarie instead	1
▪ Nothing happens in Kempsey	1
▪ Out of business hours Kempsey is dead, nothing to do and nowhere to go	1
▪ Overgrown with weeds, looks unkempt	1
▪ People can be very judgemental and a bit stand offish	1
▪ Some of the people and their attitude. You walk down the street and you get sworn at, they have no respect for anybody and anything	1
▪ Some residents are diverse and uncouth. Some are just trouble makers and appear threatening	1
▪ Some sections of the community have no respect for visitors	1
▪ South Kempsey Tourist Park is not very safe. There are louts hanging around the mall, which isn't good. I know elderly people who are not game to walk around the streets by themselves	1
▪ Streets should be cleaned up and the approach to the town should be cleaned up too	1
▪ Certain groups are spoiling the area	1
▪ The highway bypasses and most people don't stop	1
▪ The way it is now it is not very appealing. There is not much in Kempsey for anyone to be attracted to	1
▪ There is nothing for the people to do	1
▪ They are not doing enough to beautify the town. There needs to be recycling bins in the Shire	1
▪ They have to work on the image	1
▪ To an outsider, the town does not look good on the way in	1
▪ Traffic and parks need to be looked at	1
▪ Uncomfortable with racial differences	1
▪ We have a area that should be looked into badly	1
▪ We have an area which has to be looked at first and then it might be a good place to visit	1
▪ You just have to look at what you see on the way into town	1

Q6. What suggestions do you have that would make the town of Kempsey a safer and more relaxed place for locals and visitors?

▪ More/better policing/reduce crime	200
▪ Youth issues, activities and facilities	40
▪ Beautification and cleaning of the area	11
▪ Better street lighting	7

Other	64
▪ Get the bypass happening	6
▪ Are there any? If there were, it would have been done by now	1
▪ Be more friendly to each other	1
▪ Buildings should be revamped	1
▪ Bypass the highway traffic	1
▪ Car parking	1
▪ Everything is running pretty smooth	1
▪ Fix the highway and the roads	1
▪ Forward planning	1
▪ Get rid of Clyde St Mall	1
▪ Get rid of the Highway	1
▪ Get rid of the trucks from the main road and the traffic lights	1
▪ There are a lot of empty shops, try to have them filled	1
▪ I don't see it as unsafe	1
▪ I don't think Kempsey is an unsafe place but I wouldn't walk the streets at night	1
▪ I think people should use their common sense in these matters	1
▪ If the Indigenous community were more involved in growth issues and if their culture was more recognised and appreciated, the relations here would be happier and this would create a more relaxed atmosphere	1
▪ If there was more work available for people, they would be more occupied, more reasonable and happy	1
▪ Improve the image	1
▪ Improve the night life	1
▪ Improve traffic flow to enable cars to park and have better access to smaller retail shops	1
▪ Integration between different cultures	1
▪ It's coming along okay	1
▪ It's not an unsafe place but we could use more multicultural events i.e. a local cultural day	1
▪ It's out of control here	1
▪ Koori community need to be far more proactive and take responsibility for their younger population	1
▪ Mainly roads are the biggest thing holding us back, disgraceful	1
▪ Make it less easy to hang out in	1
▪ Medical services need to be improved	1
▪ More bus stops	1
▪ More involvement with the community and better interaction between indigenous people and other residents so they can all work together and get along	1

Continued on the following page

Q6. What suggestions do you have that would make the town of Kempsey a safer and more relaxed place for locals and visitors? (Cont'd)

Other (Cont'd)	
▪ More work because its lack of work and idle time is the biggest problem	1
▪ No answer	1
▪ No ideas. Happy with Kempsey	1
▪ Not sure about that one	1
▪ People need to get on better	1
▪ Provide an overpass over the main road for pedestrian safety	1
▪ Put in a cycleway or walkway here	1
▪ Rip up the Clyde Street Mall	1
▪ Roads need repairs	1
▪ Should make more use of the river	1
▪ Something that's there, more places to go to, more shopping complexes and cinemas and restaurants	1
▪ Stop them congregating in the areas they are	1
▪ Kempsey Council to work with local people more to achieve goals	1
▪ There is an element that needs to be controlled	1
▪ They are doing what they can	1
▪ They could give them more things to do and stop knocking back proposals	1
▪ To open up Clyde Street again	1
▪ Turn it back to the old Kempsey	1
▪ Use the river more	1
▪ We need recycling bins for personal use	1
▪ Integrate our different cultures more	1

Q7a. Is the town of Kempsey a good place to shop?

Q7b. (If yes), why?

▪ Good variety/big retailers/everything you need	177
Other	67
▪ Adequate	3
▪ Needs more competition	2
▪ A lot of very tired buildings	1
▪ Everything is fairly close together	1
▪ Better if the shops weren't closed down	1
▪ Better value on products	1
▪ Bigger retailers are needed	1
▪ CBD needs to be more attractive	1
▪ Cheaper prices	1
▪ Easy access to shops and light traffic flow	1
▪ Easy parking for the elderly	1
▪ Employers need to train their staff on how to look after people better	1
▪ Everything's central	1
▪ Friendliness of the people	1
▪ Friendly shopkeepers	1
▪ Good deals can be found	1
▪ Happy but could do with some larger stores	1
▪ Has improved a lot in the past 4 years	1
▪ Helpful businesses	1
▪ Holds its head up against other large towns	1
▪ I believe in shopping in our own area	1
▪ I own a business so it's a good place to shop	1
▪ If you are looking for just the basics	1
▪ It is okay but there is more at Port Macquarie	1
▪ It's a nice quite area	1
▪ It's a relaxed place to shop	1
▪ It's average. The biggest problems are racial	1
▪ It's improving all the time	1
▪ It's just sufficient	1
▪ It's local but it doesn't have much to offer	1
▪ It is only at Christmas people go out of town to shop	1
▪ I've never shopped anywhere else	1
▪ Just about all they need in the one spot	1
▪ Mayfair Plaza has a lot of shops to rent because Big W has the market	1
▪ Most of the businesses could do better but a lot of them are very good	1
▪ Much friendlier than anywhere else	1

Continued on the following page

Q7a. Is the town of Kempsey a good place to shop? (Cont'd)

Q7b. (If yes), why? (Cont'd)

Other (Cont'd)	
▪ Never had trouble	1
▪ Nice and close	1
▪ Nice and friendly and everything is close	1
▪ Not rushed	1
▪ Okay for a country town	1
▪ On the whole it is pretty good, every fortnight I go to Port Macquarie for modern women's clothing	1
▪ Overall okay	1
▪ Port Macquarie has more variety and cheaper shopping	1
▪ Prices are reasonable in comparison to Port Macquarie or Coffs Harbour	1
▪ Quality of clothes could be improved	1
▪ Reasonable	1
▪ Reasonable pricing and good service	1
▪ Security is a problem with all the aforementioned riff raff hanging around	1
▪ Shopping in your own town saves petrol	1
▪ Shops are competitive	1
▪ Sometimes it is but sometimes you can't get what you want	1
▪ Stop the locals travelling to Port Macquarie for their shopping	1
▪ The locals are good and friendly	1
▪ There is no use travelling to other towns because it would cost too much	1
▪ There's no entertainment here in Kempsey	1
▪ Very friendly	1
▪ We don't have any trouble anywhere we go	1
▪ We don't want overdevelopment	1
▪ We have a good range of businesses	1
▪ We now have more options and competition	1
▪ Would like a higher grade of stores	1
▪ Would prefer to keep money in Kempsey	1
▪ Would rather shop locally	1

Q7c. (If no), why?

▪ Not enough variety	60
Other	14
▪ We haven't got a major drawcard. Have to travel to different locations to shop. Can't find shade except at Woolworths	1
▪ You get mugged or spat at and children block your path. If you are frail or female by yourself you are too frightened to shop alone	1
▪ In 2 areas now	1
▪ It's not where I go to shop. Port Macquarie or Coffs Harbour is much better	1
▪ It is only adequate. If I need other things I go to Port Macquarie	1
▪ Lots of dead zones	1

Continued on the following page

Q7a. Is the town of Kempsey a good place to shop? (Cont'd)**Q7c. (If no), why? (Cont'd)**

Other (Cont'd)	
▪ Mainly because Woolworths dominate the local people. In Kempsey itself everybody is more friendly	1
▪ Needs more parking	1
▪ No quality of shops	1
▪ Not enough policing	1
▪ Not interested in helping anyone in anyway	1
▪ Shop owners are not looking after the locals	1
▪ They are drawing people away from the CBD with the likes of Big W	1
▪ We go to Port Macquarie to shop because it's safer there	1

Q8. Do you have any ideas for improving Kempsey's retail area?

▪ Beautify and clean up the area	47
▪ More competition/variety	39
▪ Need bigger retailers	24
▪ Better parking	23
▪ Fewer empty shops	22

Other	84
▪ Have more malls	4
▪ Provide a cinema	4
▪ Do something with the mall	3
▪ A bypass would be good to get semi-trailers off the main road	1
▪ A cinema would be great	1
▪ Cameras	1
▪ Cars have to be locked and doors for safety reasons	1
▪ Chamber of Commerce and Council should work out a long term plan	1
▪ Changing the mall area	1
▪ Closing shops at midday on Saturdays	1
▪ Council has to have a real good look at the whole place	1
▪ Council should remove the tiled and paved area near Balls' Butcher Shop and allow cars to go back there. This would also alleviate the problems of loiterers	1
▪ Crime rate needs to come down	1
▪ Don't close the mall	1
▪ Don't open the retail areas up to traffic and get better management in the mall	1
▪ Drop the rents they are far too high	1
▪ Easier access for prams and wheel chairs	1
▪ Encourage shoppers to shop locally	1
▪ Extended shop hours especially on weekends	1
▪ Fix the crime in the mall then more business will open up	1
▪ Get parked cars off the main street	1
▪ Get rid of the highway	1
▪ Have some shops opened for a few hours on Sundays	1
▪ I don't believe the buses are running as frequently as they used to	1
▪ I think it's okay as it is	1
▪ Improve the bus services	1
▪ Improve the flooding problem	1
▪ Introduce late night shopping	1
▪ It is not safe to go shopping at night	1
▪ Keep shop rentals more realistic	1
▪ Kempsey shops don't like competition. Anyone who brings in competition is not popular	1
▪ Lack of self help in the town	1
▪ Less tax for retailers to pay to bring shop owners back to the community	1

Continued on the following page

Q8. Do you have any ideas for improving Kempsey's retail area? (Cont'd)

Other (Cont'd)	
▪ Letting other companies and businesses come into our area	1
▪ Make the bypass happen quicker so we can park in the main street	1
▪ Make the rent cheaper	1
▪ Make the retail area more centralised	1
▪ Maybe have some shops open for a short time on a Saturday and Sunday	1
▪ More buildings	1
▪ More entertainment facilities	1
▪ More incentives for businesses to start up	1
▪ More jobs	1
▪ More policing	1
▪ More seating along the main street	1
▪ More support in Kempsey would lead to more business and better opportunities	1
▪ Needs to be more together rather than all over the place	1
▪ Needs to be compacted more to one area	1
▪ No excitement for the children like there was years ago	1
▪ No, it is okay here	1
▪ No life in the town	1
▪ Not enough residents to support a major shopping centre	1
▪ Not now Coles is coming in here	1
▪ Once the bypass is done, it will improve the access to the shopping area and improve availability of parking	1
▪ Once the traffic stops going through the middle of town Council can put more trees in	1
▪ Open the mall to through traffic	1
▪ Open up the mall and let traffic go through. This will eradicate a lot of "riff raff" hanging around	1
▪ Police "on the beat" so the elderly people feel comfortable to go shopping	1
▪ Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour can get more people than us	1
▪ Possible rest spots	1
▪ Promote local business	1
▪ Promote the river	1
▪ Provide an overhead walkway over Pacific Highway to make crossing safer	1
▪ Put in a plan to attract people to shop here	1
▪ Reduce crime in the retail areas	1
▪ Retailers always seem to be coming and going	1
▪ Retailers to stock more Australian owned and made products	1
▪ Revamp all the buildings	1
▪ Still with individuality	1
▪ Take the children away and give them something to do	1
▪ The CBD is all over the place. The malls and roads don't connect and meet up	1
▪ There was a big shift to the highway that killed the shopping area so we need the bypass	1
▪ Try and keep the flood waters away	1
▪ We could do with a few more shop outlets like a pizza shop and more variety stores	1
▪ We need to get an identity for the town similar to Bellingen	1
▪ When the highway goes in it will get the traffic out of town	1

Q14a. Are there any other environmental projects that you would like Council to consider in utilising the environmental levy for?

Q14b. (If yes), please specify.

▪ Environmental protection and beautification	37
▪ Recycling service	23
▪ Control of weeds	13
▪ River maintenance	11

Other	23
▪ A Council kerbside pick-up (Council clean-up) would be good	2
▪ Allocating land higher than sea level	1
▪ Another garbage tip is needed	1
▪ Bushfires - there should be more back burning available	1
▪ Complete the bridge at the end of Kemp Street to alleviate traffic problems	1
▪ Connecting more areas of the Shire to sewerage	1
▪ Council not to use fluoride in the water	1
▪ Develop a bypass to stop unnecessary traffic going through town	1
▪ Fix the dam and get it working	1
▪ Garbage should be taken once a week instead of once a fortnight	1
▪ Have the blind spots on the roads fixed up	1
▪ If the Council is going to promote tourism there should be more service facilities in those areas	1
▪ Incentives to put water tanks on buildings	1
▪ Like to see more areas where cats and dogs are prohibited	1
▪ Logging needs to be addressed	1
▪ Maintaining the rustic roads	1
▪ Need more work on the roads	1
▪ No over development	1
▪ Open up Clybucca swamp	1
▪ Should drop the levy and concentrate on core functions	1
▪ Stoney Creek Road, Temagog	1
▪ Tarring the back roads	1

Q15b. Do you have any suggestions on how Council can increase this level of income so that more services could be provided?

Q15c. (If yes), please specify.

▪ Reduce costs/improve efficiency/utilise funds better	25
▪ Increase rates/levies	10
▪ Government funding	8
▪ Contract more work out	4

Other	24
▪ Fundraisers	2
▪ Attract more industry	1
▪ Better garbage service	1
▪ Chasing up those who don't pay their rates	1
▪ Council open days	1
▪ Cut out paying for garbage services	1
▪ Develop computer ideas and sell it	1
▪ Don't take Council gear home	1
▪ Holding community events	1
▪ If they had done the roads sooner they would have saved money	1
▪ Implement work for the dole projects	1
▪ Increase the size of the population	1
▪ Increase tourism	1
▪ Invest the money properly and make money	1
▪ Invite interest in retirement villages to bring people in from Sydney and other places	1
▪ Let people know where the money is going and what is happening with it	1
▪ Let the community know the services that are available	1
▪ More industry	1
▪ Recycling, monthly pick up for mulching	1
▪ They could do with recycling bins	1
▪ They only grade the road once or twice a year	1
▪ Tourism	1
▪ We need a rehabilitation centre urgently	1

Q16. What Council services do you believe could be reduced to save money?

▪ Administration	21
▪ Reduce Council staff	12
▪ Parks and gardens	10

Other	25
▪ Anything that isn't a core service should be dropped	1
▪ Don't upgrade roads if they don't need it	1
▪ Garbage collection	1
▪ Garbage pickups could be reduced	1
▪ Grating of the roads could be cut back	1
▪ I see Council working on roads that have no pot holes whilst bad roads should be repaired	1
▪ It would be nice to know what services they have	1
▪ Less unnecessary road maintenance	1
▪ Make the area more attractive	1
▪ Outsource the skip removals	1
▪ People could mow their own strips of land	1
▪ Pothole maintenance that has to be re-done frequently	1
▪ Resealing roads that do not need to be repaired	1
▪ Reduce rubbish collection rate	1
▪ Reduce the funding for retarring and more work on dirt roads	1
▪ Road patrols just don't do enough	1
▪ Shouldn't have to pay for those that make a mess, should make them clean it up. Put more into making them be proud of the area instead of not caring	1
▪ Some of the beautification programmes	1
▪ Some places are tarred when they don't need to be	1
▪ Stop patching roads and do it properly	1
▪ There's a lot of unnecessary road work being done in areas that don't really need it	1
▪ Too much work in the CBD compared to the outer lying Shire	1
▪ Toy libraries	1
▪ Waste collection, could be privatised with a recycling system put in	1
▪ What does Macleay Water do? There are a lot of trucks about with this name on it	1

Q21. How do you believe Council can improve their methods of consulting with the community?

▪ Informing residents more	47
▪ More face-to-face contact	29
▪ Consult with/listen to the community more (unspecified how)	24
▪ Council meetings to be more accessible	14
▪ Conduct more polls/research	8

Other	25
▪ Do a pretty good job	6
▪ Address every complaint by an Ombudsman	1
▪ Answer letters that are sent to the Council	1
▪ Bring in someone from outside to consult with	1
▪ Changing of the Council name is totally unnecessary and a waste of ratepayers money	1
▪ Cost efficiency	1
▪ Do enough as is	1
▪ Don't get any follow up on things that we talk to them about	1
▪ Don't think its necessary, think a lot of it is ego tripping, the money they spend on consultation could be used in other areas to reduce costs	1
▪ Leave the ideas to the residents	1
▪ More staff	1
▪ More things could be done after hours for people who can't get there during the day	1
▪ Not to have any ideas themselves	1
▪ Owning up to their mistakes	1
▪ Simplify things	1
▪ The only time I've seen them consult is approving building permits in the back of the newspaper	1
▪ They could fix the roads	1
▪ They should ring us personally instead of hiring people to contact us	1
▪ When applying for permits with Council a direct answer would be nice instead of the red tape	1
▪ Widen their aspects	1