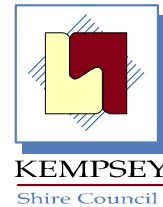




**INFORMATION SHEET**  
**MW.FG.IS01 (April 2007)**



**REGISTRATION OF INTEREST:  
MACLEAY WATER COMMUNITY DIRECTORY / COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP**

In association with this Information Sheet, Macleay Water is extending an invitation to Shire residents and its customer base for the purpose of registering individuals and representatives of groups and organisations for potential membership of the Macleay Water Community Focus Group and/or potential involvement in other aspects of the Macleay Water Community interface by way of listing on the Macleay Water Community Directory.

The Form of Registration and related information is available via visit or phone contact with Council's Customer First Centre, Civic Centre, 22 Tozer Street, Kempsey, phone 0265663200, 8.30am - 4.30pm Mon-Fri) or access to Council's internet site ([www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au/expressinterest](http://www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au/expressinterest)). Whilst there is no closing date for Registrations of Interest for listing within the Community Directory, the closing date for receipt of registrations for membership of the Focus Group is Friday, 27 April 2007. Listings within the Directory and Appointments to the Focus Group can only be made following a person's submission of the signed Registration of Interest pro-forma.

### **Background**

The former direct link between Macleay Water and its customers was the Macleay Water Community Consultative Committee (MWCCC) which ceased to function following the formulation and adoption of the Macleay Water Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy, Service Charter and Strategic Business Plan.

In the context of updated consultative processes and the need to secure stakeholder participation within the water industry's rapidly changing operational framework as relevant to the provision of water & sewerage services within Kempsey Shire, Macleay Water Customer interfacing will be effected in three ways;

- Macleay Water / Customer First responses to enquiries (as always)
- Macleay Water Community Focus Group (MWCFG)
- Macleay Water Community Directory (MWCD)

### **Kempsey Shire Council Customer First**

Irrespective of other mechanisms or initiatives in place at any time, Macleay Water encourages Customers to routinely contact Council for information or advice or offer suggestions using the available channels of communication. Contact details are as follows;

Customer First Centre, Civic Centre, 22 Tozer Street, Kempsey, phone 0265663200, 8.30am - 4.30pm Mon-Fri) or access to Council's internet site ([www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au)).

### **Macleay Water Community Focus Group (MWCFG)**

The MWCFG will

- Provide additional means of opening up genuine dialogue and sharing of ideas between Macleay Water and the Community.
- Meet twice in the planning process before a draft plan or strategy is distributed to Councillors or put on public exhibition and, as such, will play a major role in the initial planning stage and the first stage of draft plan review.
- Be assembled so that attitudes and opinions are gathered from a range of different people and a broad cross-section of our community.
- Meet every six to eight weeks at various venues within the Shire and to a straightforward set of formal protocols and ground rules that engender all-round participation, integrity, honesty and response appreciation.
- Be of membership adopted by Council in public forum.

**Those seeking membership of the MWCFG are encouraged to peruse the Macleay Water Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy summary document on Council's website. An expose' of Macleay Water's activities within a 30 years planning horizon is set out therein.**

### **Macleay Water Community Directory (MWCD)**

The MWCD is

- A confidential, internal working list of stakeholders who are interested in consultation and participation relevant to the provision and surveys of water and sewerage services subject to their no-obligation willingness to respond at any time.
- Water and sewerage focus groups (apart from the main MWCFG) drawn from the CCR may be invited to assemble for particular issues

### **Central Consultation Register (CCR)**

- The Central Consultation Register (CCR) is open to every resident in the shire and is a register from which different people can be invited to participate in focus groups conducted from time to time to help Council better understand particular attitudes and opinions on particular issues.
- Information forms for the CCR are available at the Customer First Centre, Kempsey Shire Library and its branches, and online at Council's website.

- Respondents to the call for registration of interest in respect of the Macleay Water Community Directory will be included on the wider CCR if the relevant endorsement is made on the form of registration.
- Different focus groups drawn from the CCR are invited to assemble for each different issue

### **General Conditions**

- Listing of any respondent within the MWCD does not constitute a guarantee or expectation from either the respondent or Council that any subsequent consultation or participation activity will necessarily follow.
- Council reserves the right to vary MWCD listings, MWCFG memberships and Forms of Registration at any time.
- Council's decisions in relation to MWCD listings and MWCFG membership are made in good faith and without prejudice, based on Macleay Water staff and certain other Departmental Staff considerations of respondents' disclosures in the context of the need for, amongst other things, a representative and credentialed forum. In registrations of interest, respondents are deemed to agree that no correspondence will be entered into in this regard. No payments will be made in respect of any or all persons Listed within the MWCD or for membership of the MWCFG or for any activities associated therewith.

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