



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

8 March 2005

**GM4 MID NORTH COAST GROUP OF COUNCILS
FILE: * AVB**

SUMMARY:

To summarise the proceedings of the MIDGOC Meeting held on the 23 February 2005.



I attended the Mid North Coast Group of Council's meeting held at Hastings Council on Wednesday, 23 February. The meeting was addressed by Lloyd Kingham, Local Government Weed Facilitator, Department of Primary Industries who provided an overview of the recently published Noxious Weed Handbook which covers:-

- The Key Players in Noxious Weeds
- Role of the Noxious Weeds Advisory Committee
- Overview of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993
- Responsibility of Local Government and
- The role of the Weeds Officer

The following matters were considered at the meeting:-

- Kempsey Shire Councils motion to the 2004 LGA Conference, "That the Associations make representations to the Minister of Police to introduce heavier penalties for infringement of speed limits by drivers and owners of heavy vehicles" was supported and a letter will be forwarded to the Minister. The letter will also ask the Minister to support Local Area Commands undertaking blitz's and surveillance at night, that the problems not be addressed by positioning speed cameras in residential areas which in itself causes noise problems and for the Minister to address the issue of greater driver education.
- The Group supports Kempsey's effort to have the North Coast Tourist Regions name changed to the Mid North Coast Tourism Region and a letter is to be forwarded to North

Coast Tourism. Letters will also be forwarded to local members of parliament asking for their support.

- Council's resolution requesting the State Government to implement the recommendations of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART) as from 1 July 2005 to ensure a more equitable allocation of funding for NSW Health Services has been deferred to the next meeting pending information from the Area Health Service as to the implications for the Mid North Coast.
- The Group saw no need to organise on a regional basis a LGA workshop on, "Effective and Fair Meeting Procedures".
- The Mid North Coast Area Disability Committee is to be requested to organise a workshop on, "Relationships with Local Government" with an invitation to member Councils to attend.
- An updated report on the Strategic Alliance [\(Appendix B\)](#). Councils are encouraged to provide ongoing funding of \$10,000 in 2005/06.
- It is suggested that funding of Film Mid North Coast should be withheld until further information is obtained on current operations.
- The Local Government Superannuation Board will be requested to reintroduce employer contributions to employee superannuation over a three (3) year basis.
- The next meeting is to be held in Kempsey on Wednesday, 1 June 2005.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

Nil

- ***Social***

Nil

- ***Economic (Financial)***

Nil

- ***Policy or Statutory***

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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A V Burgess
GENERAL MANAGER