



KEMPSEY  
Shire Council

## DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICE'S REPORT

13 September 2005

**DSS13 RURAL FIRE SERVICE ESTIMATES**  
**FILE: F3-30 KJF**

### SUMMARY

Reporting on the Rural fire Fighting Fund Estimates for the 2006 / 2007 Year.



The 2006 / 2007 Rural Fire Fighting Fund Estimates have been prepared and a copy is attached at [Appendix E](#). The estimates have been reviewed by Council staff and no major issues of concern noted apart from the allocation for Volunteer Intranet. This allocation, to provide a great service to the volunteers by provision of a web-based information system, My RFS, is provided under Equipment. It is felt that this should be more appropriately provided under Reimbursable Items - Other Programs.

Equipment relates to Personal Protective Equipment and other essential materials for fire fighting.

Reimbursable Items cover "program charges" applied by the R.F.S. Head Office and are reimbursed in the following financial year (ie. Council carries the RFS as a debtor for 12 months). It is felt that the Volunteer Intranet more appropriately falls under this section of the estimates and that these new costs meet the criteria for reimbursement.

The total estimate is \$636,298 and is within the forward budget provided by Council. Council is asked to endorse the estimates.

### **REPORT IMPLICATIONS:**

- ***Environmental & Policy***

***Nil***

- ***Economic (Financial)***

*The financial implications of the following recommendation are the commitment to contribute 13.3% of the budget allocated. Council's forward estimates does make provision for such expenditure.*

- *Statutory*

*Council has a statutory requirement, by way of Sections 109 and 110 of the Rural Fires Act, to provide 13.3% of this budget.*

- *Director's Review*

*Council is asked to endorse the recommendations.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the 2006 / 2007 Rural Fire Fighting Fund Estimates be approved.
2. That the Commissioner or the R.F.S. be asked to provide the allocation for the Volunteer Intranet from Program charges rather than Equipment.

.....  
K J Finnie  
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES