



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

10th October 2006

DSS6 **RURAL FIRE SERVICE ESTIMATES**
FILE: F3 – 30 **APV** {Folio No. * }

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the Rural Fire Fighting Funds Estimates for the 2007/2008 year.



DESCRIPTION:

The 2007/2008 Rural Fire Fighting Funds Estimates have been prepared and a copy is attached at [Appendix B.](#)

In addition to the amount of \$839,299 shown in those estimates, a further amount of \$283,000 for District Salaries and an estimated \$50,000 for insurance need to be provided. Further discussions with Rural Fire Services indicate that the amount for reimbursable items should be increased to \$70,000 rather than the \$38,000 shown. This would result in a total estimate of \$1,204,299 for 2007/2008 of which Council would be required to contribute 13.3% or \$160,172,

In the draft forward budget for 2007/2008 Council has made provision for a net amount of \$130,500 as its contribution to Bush Fire Fighting Funds.

The estimates have been reviewed by Council staff and the following comments are provided.

- Under Appliances, the estimates provide for a new Category 7 Crew Cab for Temagog Brigade with the existing single Cab to replace the 1977 petrol tanker at Clybucca.
- Under second hand tanker, the estimates provide for a second hand Category 1 Dual Cab to replace the 1977 petrol tanker at Stuarts Point. These two replacement vehicles will result in the elimination of all of the old petrol tankers in the Kempsey Shire.

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- Under other Vehicles, the estimates provide for an additional Crew Cab Vehicle to be utilized by the group officer at Kempsey Headquarters.
- Equipment provides for Personal Protective Equipment and other essential equipment materials for fire fighting including \$17,000 for new pumps and \$17,000 for new radio communication system.
- An amount of \$210,000 is proposed in the estimates for brigade stations, \$10,000 of which is provided to upgrade the telephones at the Fire Control Centre. \$200,000 is proposed to be provided in 2007/2008, with a further \$175,000 in 2008/2009 for a new central brigade station at Stuarts Point. The intention is to replace the three existing stations at Stuarts Point, Fishermans Reach and Yarrahapinni with one larger (four bay) centralised brigade station at Stuarts Point at an estimated cost of \$375,000.

The proposed replacement of the two 1977 petrol appliances at Clybucca and Stuarts Point are deemed to be the highest priority. Following these proposed replacements in 2007/2008 expenditure in future years on replacement of appliances will be substantially reduced and funding can then be provided for brigade stations.

Deferring the construction of a new station at Stuarts Point and the provision of an additional vehicle for the group officer at Kempsey Headquarters will reduce the estimates to \$963,799 and Council's contribution to \$128,185.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

Nil

- ***Social***

Nil

- ***Economic (Financial)***

The financial implications of the following recommendation are the commitment to contribute 13.3% of the budget allocated, ie \$128,185. Council's forward estimates makes provision for such expenditure.

- ***Policy or Statutory***

Council has a statutory requirement, by way of Section 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:

That the 2007/2008 Rural Fire Fighting Funds Estimates as proposed be approved with the deferment of the new Stuarts Point brigade station and the deferment of an additional vehicle for Kempsey Headquarters.

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A P Vermeulen
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES