



GENERAL MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

10 October 2006

GM4	APPLICATIONS FOR HALF DAY HOLIDAYS IN 2007
	FILE: 742 MRB {Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

To consider applications that have been made for two half day holidays in the Kempsey Shire for the year 2007.



DESCRIPTION:

Council has received two (2) applications for half-day public holidays in 2007 being: -

- Tuesday 24th April 2007 – from Central North Coast National Agricultural Society Ltd for Kempsey Show
- Wednesday 2nd May 2007 – from Kempsey Race Club for Kempsey Cup.

Council has given notice to the public through advertising over two weeks commencing September 11 and 18, 2006 and has written to the local Chambers of Commerce.

To the date of preparing this report no submissions have been received with submissions closing 22nd September 2006. Council will be advised if any late submissions are received prior to the meeting.

Should Council resolve to approve these proposed half-day holidays, the Director General NSW Department of Industrial Relations must be notified in writing by mid November to allow for gazettal and advertising of the dates in the Government Gazette in December 2006.

Council practice in past years has been to also place the following advertisement in the weeks leading up to these holidays to clarify the requirements on local business houses: -

"Local public holidays are gazetted under the Banks and Bank Holidays Act of 1912. This Act requires that banks are closed on local public holidays. An appointed local holiday under the Act benefits employees who have an industrial award, agreement or contract of employment which confers a right of paid absence (or penalty rates in lieu) on the local public holiday. In absence of such express coverage within an applicable industrial instrument, the conferring of the benefit of a local public holiday to employees is entirely within the discretion of the individual employers."

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

▪ **Environmental**

Nil

▪ **Social**

These events are significant social events for the Kempsey Shire area and also attract visitors to the area.

▪ **Economic (Financial)**

The implication for Council directly is that wages and salaries for Council staff to be allocated two half-day public holidays in the vicinity of \$49,000. The businesses of the Shire would have a similar implication.

The implication for the community generally and the organisations concerned is the economic benefit of many people who would otherwise be at work, being able to attend the events.

▪ **Policy or Statutory**

The half-day holidays, once Council has agreed to support them must be gazetted by the Minister.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council make application to the Director General NSW Department of Industrial Relations for two (2) half-day holidays in the Kempsey Shire in 2007, being 24th April and 4th May 2007.

.....
A V Burgess
GENERAL MANAGER