



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

12th September 2006

DSS7	KEMPSEY DISTRICT SILVER BAND
	FILE: 184 GRW {Folio No. * }

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the request from the Kempsey District Silver Band for additional funds to establish the Kempsey Centre of Music Excellence.



At Council's meeting on 14 March 2006, Council was advised of the intention of the Kempsey District Silver Band to create the Kempsey Centre for Music Excellence at the building of the former Baby Health centre in Memorial Avenue, Kempsey.

Council was advised that the band intended to submit a grant application to the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) under the Regional Partnerships Program to assist with renovations to the building.

On 14 March 2006, Council resolved:

1. *That the Kempsey Silver Band be advised that Council will make an in-kind donation equivalent to the cost they incur to deposit the waste material from the former Baby Health Centre site to the Council's waste landfill.*
2. *That negotiations commence on the lease of the former Baby Health Centre with the Kempsey District Silver Band.*

The Kempsey District Silver Band is currently submitting the grant application and is seeking additional information and commitments from Council to ensure the success of this application. A copy of this letter is attached [Appendix D](#).

The Silver Band sought from Council an extended 25 year lease with a 25 year renewable option containing five yearly reviews. This request was considered by Council, however, in line with current policy only a 10 year lease with five year reviews was offered. The Silver Band have accepted this offer.

The Silver Band has requested 'in-kind' contribution by Council relating to administration of the grant and 'loss of commercial rent'. The Band has requested that Council administer the financial disbursement of the grant. Council has in the past undertaken this task on behalf of other community organisations. Council has also supplied the band with an approximate value for the loss of commercial rent for the building for the purpose of their funding application.

In addition to the above requests, the Silver Band is seeking reimbursement of Development Application Fees paid to Council for the Memorial Avenue building of \$1001.10.

The Silver Band is also seeking funding from Council to enable an official gala opening of the new Music School of Excellence when renovations to the building are complete. They have estimated costs for this function at approximately \$2,000.00.

Councillors need to be aware that any additional funding to the Silver Band will effectively deny other groups the opportunity to access funds via the donation vote. An amount of only \$9,000 is available this financial year for disbursement to all community groups throughout the shire.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

▪ *Environmental*

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

▪ *Social*

The provision of the Kempsey Centre for Music Excellence provides a much needed permanent home for this group. It will also enable the venue to become a focal point for musicians within the Shire.

▪ *Economic (Financial)*

Council currently provides a donation of \$4,500 each year to the Kempsey District Silver Band. In addition to this donation, Council pays the Silver Band for performances it undertakes on behalf of Council such as the Australia Day Awards.

▪ *Policy or Statutory*

There are no policy or statutory implications arising from this report.

Directors Review

Council currently provides an annual donation to the Kempsey District Silver Band of \$4,500. In addition, in relation to this project, Council has agreed to administer the financial disbursement of the grant and reimburse any tipping fees. Any additional funding support will deny other community groups access to funds for donations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the request for reimbursement of Development Application fees and funds to provide for an official opening of the Memorial Avenue building be refused on the grounds that the Silver Band is already in receipt of ongoing donation funding from Council.

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A P Vermeulen
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES