



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

14th November 2006

DSS10	RURAL FIRE SERVICE – SERVICE AGREEMENT
	FILE: 441 APV {Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the proposal to extend the term of the Service Agreement for the Twin Rivers Rural Fire Zone.



DESCRIPTION:

The 3 year term of the existing Twin Rivers Rural Fire Zone Service Agreement between the Rural Fire Service and Kempsey and Nambucca Councils expired on 30 June 2006.

As a result of recent changes in the management within the RFS, a new agreement has not been signed. A revised agreement will shortly be negotiated between the two Councils and the Service.

In the interim, in order that all parties are covered the RFS has proposed that the current Service Agreement be extended for a period of 12 months from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.

A meeting of the Twin Rivers Rural Fire Zone Liaison Committee was held on 31 October 2006. Kempsey Council was represented by Cr T Hunt and Director Shire Services. The quarterly review of the Service Agreement revealed a number of actions that had not been undertaken by the RFS in accordance with the Service Agreement. These included the lack of quarterly reports and annual review for 2005/2006. It is proposed to re-establish the Liaison Committee in accordance with the Service Agreement and that Quarterly Reports be prepared with 6 monthly meetings of the Liaison Committee.

At that meeting it was reported that a Workplace Inspection of the Kempsey RFS Headquarters in North Street had been carried out by the RFS. A number of issues have been identified most of which relate to maintenance/housekeeping or minor improvements.

Arrangements have been made for an on-site meeting to address these issues.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Nil.

- *Social*

Nil.

- *Economic (Financial)*

There are no financial implications from this report.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That the current Service Agreement for the Twin Rivers Rural Fire Zone between Kempsey Shire Council and the NSW Rural Fire Service be extended for a period of 12 months from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.

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A P Vermeulen
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES