



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

18th July 2006

DCS6	PROPOSALS FOR TRANSFER OF CROWN RESERVES	
	FILE: 395	SJR

SUMMARY:

Reporting on an approach from the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) to transfer Crown lands in the vicinity of Grassy Head/Stuarts Point and Goolawah Reserve.



DESCRIPTION:

Council were approached by representatives of DEC in February 2006 to discuss a proposed transfer of Crown Land at Grassy Head and Goolawah Reserve.

A copy of correspondence from the Parks and Wildlife Division of DEC is attached at [\(Appendix D\)](#).

The subject areas are as shown on Map 1 [\(Appendix E\)](#) and Map 2 [\(Appendix F\)](#).

Council has held several meetings with both the Department of Lands (DoL) and DEC in regard to the proposals.

However, the Minister for Lands recent announcement that DoL would not be transferring the lands to DEC has put paid to the proposals – even though DEC has indicated that they would refer the matter to the Resource and Conservation Division, Premiers Department.

In respect of the Crown lands south of Crescent Head, Council should be aware that it is the Trustee of two (2) Reserve areas only ie. R88664 and R1003268 as shown on Map 2.

The Goolawah Stage II Plan of Management (1989 vintage) envisaged that the 232 Ha Reserve 1003588 would be transferred to Council's trusteeship, but this has not yet taken place.

The DoL's proposal to prepare Plans of Management for all coastal reserves within Kempsey Shire, starting at the southern boundary, should see some rationalisation in the management of the Crown reserves in the Goolawah area.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

The DoL proposes to prepare Plans of Management for the subject areas.

- *Social*

The coastal reserves are important community assets.

- *Economic (Financial)*

Council operates the Grassy Head Caravan Park (Operating surplus approximately \$40,000pa) and Goolawah Camping Grounds (Operating loss approximately \$17,000pa) on these Reserve lands.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil.

- *Director's Review*

The Recommendation is supported.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council advise the Department of Environment and Conservation that in view of the Minister for Lands announcement on 22nd June 2006 no further action would be taken in regard to the proposal to transfer the lands at both Grassy Head/Stuarts Point and Goolawah.

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G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES