



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

**DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**

9th October 2007

**DCCS10 DONATION REQUEST – KEMPSEY DISTRICT
SUPP SILVERBAND
FILE: LA2099 MLB**

SUMMARY:

Reporting on a request received from the Kempsey District Silver band for in-kind support for opening of the Richard Blight Music Centre.

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This late report is submitted as a matter “deemed urgent by the Mayor” in view of the event being scheduled prior to the next meeting of Council.

Over the past 20 years the Kempsey District Silver band has been pursuing a permanent home for the development of music within the Kempsey Shire. This became a step closer in 2006 when the Silver band became lease holders of the former Baby Health Centre in Memorial Avenue, Kempsey.

Since then the Kempsey District Silver Band has been successful in receiving a grant under the DOTARS Regional Partnerships funding for the conversion of the former Baby Health Centre into the Richard Blight Music Centre. The Centre is being named in honour of the longest serving member of the band, Richard Blight.

It is anticipated that the renovations to the Memorial Avenue building will be completed soon.

To celebrate the completion of this building the official opening of the Centre is scheduled for Sunday, 4th November 2007, at 4.30pm. It is intended that a concert and barbeque in the park will be held to thank the local community for their support, with the public invited to attend.

The Kempsey District Silver Band submitted an “Event Management Application” on 4th October, and is seeking in-kind support from Council towards the opening of this new facility. The in-kind support sought includes: -

Provision of barricades for official vehicles	\$100.00
Portable toilets (2)*	\$410.00
Provision of additional garbage bins (10)	\$48.50
Provision of Public address system	\$0.00
Macleay Water Marquee	\$60.00

Provision of Chairs (35)*	\$96.00
Total	\$1,064.50

Items marked with * have to be sourced from external suppliers hence their costs.

Support Currently provided to Silver Band

The Kempsey District Silver Band is currently a 355 Committee of Council with a delegation to provide a Town Band.

Currently the Silver band receives an annual donation of \$4,500 to assist in the provision of this service as well as being covered under Council's insurance cover.

In addition to this annual donation, Council has provided the following assistance in ensuring the development of this centre:-

- ◆ Provision of a ten (10) year lease with a five (5) year option with a nominal lease fee of \$1.00 per annum,
- ◆ Payment of all rates relating to the leased property being \$482.00 for 2007/2008 financial year,
- ◆ Council is responsible for all major repairs on the building where each repair is more than \$2,000 and therefore a contingency is contained within Council's budget for this amount.
- ◆ Council reimbursed the Development Application Fee of \$1,001.10.
- ◆ Council paid for the costs associated with the removal of waste and materials from the site which currently stands at \$591.20 and is likely to increase at the conclusion of works prior to the opening.

Department of Local Governments Ruling on Donations

Under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, Council may *"in accordance with a resolution of the council, contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions.*

The intent of that section is to ensure that prior to making a decision to use community resources and/or expend public money in a form of financial and other assistance to persons, councils should comply with the requirements that are designed to promote better accountability and transparency in relation to council decision making processes."

Accordingly this request for financial assistance is forwarded to Council for determination.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- **Environmental**

There is no environmental implication from this report.

- *Social*

The Social Implications of this report are that the Kempsey District Silver band is receiving substantial support from Council for the operations of their functions.

If other 355 Committee's of Council where to become aware of this support they may also seek similar levels of support in the conducting of their 355 Committee affairs.

- *Economic (Financial)*

The financial implications of this report are that if Council is supportive in providing a donation of \$1,064.50 towards the Opening of the Richard Blight Music Centre, these funds would be met from the Donations Budget - Community Based Activities Budget.

As at the 8th October 2007, \$2,909.71 is remaining available within this budget with its primary purpose being the provision of in-kind donations for Council based activities.

If the donation was to be granted it would result in \$1,845.21 being available for other donations across the remaining eight (8) months of the current financial year.

- *Policy or Statutory*

This report has been forwarded to Council in accordance with Section 356 of the Local Government Act.

- *Director's Review*

The recommendation is supported. Council will be reviewing its donations policy at the November 2007 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report on the request from the Kempsey District Silver Band for financial assistance be dealt with in conjunction with the Director Corporate and Community Services Reports.
2. That the request from the Kempsey District Silver Band for financial assistance towards the opening ceremony of the Richard Blight Music Centre be refused.

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G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES