



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

12th June 2007

DCCS6	ABANDON RATES AND CHARGES ON CANCELLED FORESTRY LEASE	FILE: LA12385	WMS	{Folio No. *}
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SUMMARY:

Reporting that Councils approval is required to abandon rates and charges totalling \$2,947.18 on Occupation Permit # 4633 which was cancelled by Forests NSW in 1999.

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DESCRIPTION:

Occupation Permit # 4633 was transferred on 19th November 1996. Rates were paid on the lease until March 1998. Since then all efforts to locate the ratepayer have been unsuccessful.

In September 1999 Forests NSW advised that they were also unable to locate the lessee and that the lease was in arrears and would probably be terminated. Council received notification, in June 2006, that the lease was terminated on 27th May 1999. No prior notification of the termination was provided to either Council or the Valuer General prior to 2006.

Under Section 555 (1) (a) of the Local Government Act 1993 following the termination of the lease, the land became non-rateable from 27th May 1999, the ownership having reverted to the Crown. Rates and charges raised prior to the termination date amounts to \$627.77, while a further \$2,319.41 has been raised as rates (\$1,184.05) and interest charges (\$1,135.36), after the effective termination date. All efforts to locate the ratepayer have been exhausted, and further efforts are unlikely to locate him.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Nil

- *Social*

Nil

- *Economic (Financial)*

Councils outstanding rates and charged will be reduced by \$2,947.18.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Statutory

- *Director's Review*

The recommendation is supported.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approves the abandonment of rates and charges totalling \$2,947.18 in relation to forestry lease, Occupation Permit No. 4633.

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G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES