



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

12th June 2007

DCCS9	OPERATIONAL PARTNERSHIP WITH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIVE SERVICES
FILE: 282 GB	{Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Department of Corrective Services proposes making available work teams to assist Kempsey Shire Council and community groups with maintenance and other works.

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DESCRIPTION:

Greg O'Rourke, Area Manager of Community Offender Services for the Department of Corrective Services is in the process of assembling supervised teams to undertake community projects around the Shire and form operational partnerships with council. These teams of offenders are made up of people sentenced to community orders, they are not inmates of the correctional facility. The Department will provide the teams, a paid supervisor, transport to and from the work sites, protective clothing and tools as well as insurance. Kempsey Shire Council will be required to provide goods and materials to be used in the works.

The list of projects discussed so far has included: maintenance of graves in West Kempsey cemetery, removing all glass and ceramic vessels from the cemeteries to alleviate the effects of vandalism, cleaning of Kempsey Shire Council signs around Kempsey, maintenance of some of the halls around the shire, clearing a walking track around Big Nobby at Crescent Head for the Department of Lands, and the cleaning up of the area around Gills Creek which adjoins the industrial area in South Kempsey as part of crime prevention activities.

The next step in this proposed partnership is the preparation and signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Department of Corrective Services and Kempsey Shire Council. Mr O'Rourke hopes to have the programme under way by the end of June.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Work maintaining areas of the shire that otherwise would not be undertaken will be completed, eliminating environmental weeds and enhancing the appearance of different areas under Council's care and control.

- *Social*

The opportunity for meaningful work and some training will be offered to people whose offences are of a minor nature. If it is successful, this project should lead to paid employment for at least some of the participants.

- *Economic (Financial)*

Goods and materials for these projects will be provided from current operational funds already budgeted for.

- *Policy or Statutory*

No policy implications

- *Director's Review*

The proposal will benefit the community.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES