



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

13th February 2007

GM5

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

FILE: 927

AVB

{ Folio No. * }

SUMMARY:

Presenting the draft community Strategic Plan prepared by the Focus Group.



DESCRIPTION:

Council, in October 2006 decided to review the Corporate Strategic Plan in conjunction with the review of the Long Term Financial Plan.

A position paper was prepared providing information on, Where Are We Now? in respect of the Corporate Strategic Plan last reviewed in 2004, and Where Are We Going?

Workshops were held at Willawarrin, Kempsey, South West Rocks, Stuarts Point, Crescent Head, Smithtown and the Aboriginal Liaison Committee. Participants at the workshops were asked to provide feedback on: -

- Does the communities vision and Mission statement need to be amended and if so how?
- Are the goals appropriate today or should they be amended or consolidated?
- Are additional goals needed to cover other aspects of council activities?
- Does council need to change direction with its goals and if so how? And
- If the changes identified involved an increase in cost to provide how are these increases to be funded?

A copy of the feedback from those workshops is outlined in [Appendix D](#). I sorted through the information and attempted to interpret the wishes of the providers (bold print) [Appendix E](#). To ensure that the Strategic Plan was developed by the community each workshop and the Aboriginal Liaison Committee was asked to nominate representatives to serve on a Focus Group with councillor and staff representatives.

The Focus Group members are: -

Nicky Smith
Ros Keifer

Stuarts Point
South West Rocks

Rosie Cady	Crescent Head
John Cruickshanks	Kempsey
Margery Cooper	Willawarrin
Margaret Campbell	Smithtown
John Kelly	Aboriginal Liaison Committee
Ruth Maruca	Aboriginal Liaison Committee
Betty Green	Mayor
Terry Hunt	Councillor
Allan Burgess	General Manager
Robert Pitt	Director Sustainable Development Services

The Focus Group met on the 23 and 30 January and presents the following draft Community Strategic Plan to council for exhibition. Council's current Corporate Strategic Plan, vision, Mission and Goals are outlined in [Appendix F](#) for comparison purposes.

Name of Plan

"Kempsey Shire – Our 20 year Vision"

The Community Strategic Plan is to have a duration of 20 years to be reviewed every four (4) years to coincide with Local government elections.

Vision

The value of our natural environment and lifestyle is (are) preserved and enhanced (by all).

Achieving Our Vision (Replaces Mission Statement)

(Council provides) high quality services and facilities (are provided) through strong leadership which considers the needs of our community, the environment and future generations.

Goals

1. To Facilitate Ecologically Sustainable Development in the Shire

Reasons for Goal

- To protect and enhance the environment
- To strategically plan for development
- To provide employment opportunities
- To have a positive impact of development on social wellbeing

2. To Foster and Enhance Effective Social, Cultural and Community Relations, Building Respect and Civic Pride

Reasons for Goal

- To cater for a diverse community
- To overcome poor / low community self esteem
- To engage and include all sectors of the community
- To embrace cultural and historical heritage
- To deal with the challenges of a significant low socio-economic community

3. To Plan and Fund the Shires Infrastructure and Service Needs

Reasons for Goal

- To provide infrastructure and services required by the community
 - To plan for infrastructure and service provision
 - To continually upgrade infrastructure and services
 - To have all users current and future pay for infrastructure and service development
 - To minimise costs of infrastructure and services for the community by seeking external funding
4. To Pursue Beneficial Relationships with Regional Neighbours and other Levels of Government

Reasons for Goal

- To participate in Resource sharing with other Councils
- Develop networks and effective personal relationships for sharing ideas and information

5. To Ensure Effective, Efficient and Accountable Management

Reasons for Goal

- To receive value for money services
- To provide accountability for expenditure of public funds
- To provide good management
- To have genuine open communication with the community

This is a long term plan (20 years) and its components "Vision" "Achieving Our Vision" and "Goals" need to be broad and non-specific. The goals will be supported by strategies that can identify areas that need to be addressed whether they are a particular demographic group e.g. Aboriginal, aged, youth etc. or a locality. The strategies will be specific and will be supported by performance measures.

The Focus Group is strongly of the opinion that as this is a Community Strategic Plan that it should be placed on exhibition as is and if any amendments are required by council that they be made when council considers any submissions.

The focus Group intends to meet again after the closure of submissions to consider those submissions and to recommend to council a draft plan for adoption which will also include suggested strategies.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

• ***Environmental***

The draft Community Strategic Plan addresses the environmental protection of the Shire.

• ***Social***

Social and community engagement are covered in the draft plan.

• ***Economic (Financial)***

Financial well-being and management are provided for in the draft plan.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That the draft Community Strategic Plan “Kempsey Shire – Our 20 year Vision” be placed on exhibition and public submissions invited.

.....
A V Burgess
GENERAL MANAGER