



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

MAYORAL SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

13th March 2007

MM7	DROUGHT ASSISTANCE
SUPP.	FILE: * EAG {Folio No. *} }

SUMMARY:

Report on proposed Drought assistance to a western Shire.

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DESCRIPTION:

Further to discussion at our December 2006 meeting following questions without notice: -

Following discussion with the Local Government and Shire association (who are maintaining a database of Shire's who are interested in assistance) as to a Shire for us to assist, discussion has been held with Forbes who have expressed interest in entering into an arrangement for assistance. Also the longer term goal of Sister Shire relationship.

As we have had many enquiries from local people wanting to get involved we have called a public meeting at the Kempsey RSL to be held on 6.30pm Tuesday 27th March 2007. This has been advertised and various Kempsey Shire organisations have specifically invited.

The assistance envisaged is not financial (this is the province of the governments Federal and State) rather we are looking to assist on a shire to shire basis (person to person basis). The idea is the schools will support and assist schools in the area, Service clubs other service clubs, local business people to support local business people in the area.

Further that we may be able to assist with some of those personal items which people who have been in drought for many years would be denying themselves in order to survive. Out farmers may be able to assist farmers in the Forbes area.

The bottom line is that we demonstrate to the residents of Forbes shire that someone cares what happens to them and are able to support them in little ways which make a difference.

The public meeting is being called to establish a committee who will drive the project as while this is a shire council idea we need to engage others in our community to drive it.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Nil

- *Social*

The proposal is to assist another Shire to retain and hopefully improve their social cohesion and also to extend social well being from our own Shire.

Economic (Financial)

Nil

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the information be noted.
2. That Kempsey Shire Councillors will support the project.

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E A Green
MAYOR