



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

13th March 2007

DCCS8	SALEYARD HALF YEARLY REPORT
FILE: 255	TAB {Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on Saleyard operations over the past six months.

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DESCRIPTION:

Providing an overview for Council of activities relating to the Kempsey Regional Saleyards.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A copy of the Financial Statement for the period to 31 December 2006 is attached at [\(Appendix D – Page J5\)](#). The revised 2006/07 operating surplus is \$1,179, and after taking capital movements into account the total deficit for 2006/07 is estimated to be \$85,138. This deficit is \$17,150 above the original Budget and is attributed to the decrease in stock throughput during the October to December Quarter. Refer the section on “Stock Throughput” which appears later in this report.

UPGRADE AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



Completed Northern pens

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The 2006/07 capital works program was completed at the end of December 2006 at a cost of \$264,307. Works to upgrade to the old northern receiving and holding pens included:

- 2040 square meters of concrete flooring
- 31 meters of stormwater drainage
- 3 unloading ramps suitable for B-double use
- Construction of 17 holding pens
- Over 550 meters of steel panelling
- Improved lighting for safe work practices at night
- Bitumen surfacing of the public area



New Bitumen (Public Area)

The 2007/08 Budget includes provision for a further improvement works program of \$250,000 (from Loans) which would enable completion of the reconstruction on the northern end and substantial improvement of the southern end.

EFFLUENT SYSTEM

Quarterly water sampling of the effluent ponds is ongoing. Recent tests conclude that levels of Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorous, BOD, pH, Electrical Conductivity and Faecal Coliform were within the EPA requirements.

BEEF CATTLE HEALTH AND HUSBANDRY COURSE

Kempsey Regional Saleyards will be the venue for the inaugural Beef cattle Health and Husbandry Course. This course will help Macleay beef producers to develop or further enhance their skills and knowledge in the care and management of beef cattle.

The course is a joint venture between the North Coast Institute of TAFE and Kempsey Rural Lands Protection Board. The Practical component of the course will be run at the saleyards between the months of March and April.

COMMUNITY WATER GRANTS

Council was unsuccessful in obtaining a Community Water Grant for the provision of a rainwater storage tank and pump to save and protect water resources.

Council are now submitting an application for the installation of bores to reduce costs associated with the maintenance and cleaning of the site.

CANTEEN

Expressions of Interest were called in October for the lease of the canteen. Tumblegum Bakehouse was awarded the contract to operate the kiosk following a call for expressions of interest. They have brought in a fresh new approach with a diverse menu, quality signage, and improved tables and chairs. Council has received plenty of positive feed back from the public on the quality of the food and service.



Upgraded kiosk seating

MALICIOUS DAMAGE

Over the past few months there has been several cases of malicious damage and stolen property within the saleyards complex, some 200 meters of copper water pipe and a hydraulic ram were taken, costing the council over \$4,500. Police have since made an arrest in relation to the theft of copper pipe but as it was cut into one metre lengths it is of no use to us.

Council are looking at measures to prevent such incidents from happening again and are investigating the feasibility of installing Closed Circuit Television monitoring.

ACCREDITATION AND RANKING

Kempsey Regional Saleyards had their annual NSQA Audit by AUSMEAT LIMITED in late September and the inspectors findings where pleasing. There were no significant issues that needed to be addressed and the

inspector was very pleased with Councils commitment to the ongoing upgrade program.

The National Livestock Reporting Service has released the 'Cattle Saleyard Survey' which indicates that the Kempsey Regional Saleyard has again increased sales through the facility for the previous year. The sale yard is now ranked 22nd of 58. The ranking is measured on throughput of cattle and Kempsey has moved up from 25th in 2002/03.

Cattle throughput in 2005/06 rose to 33,130 which was an 8% increase from the previous year.

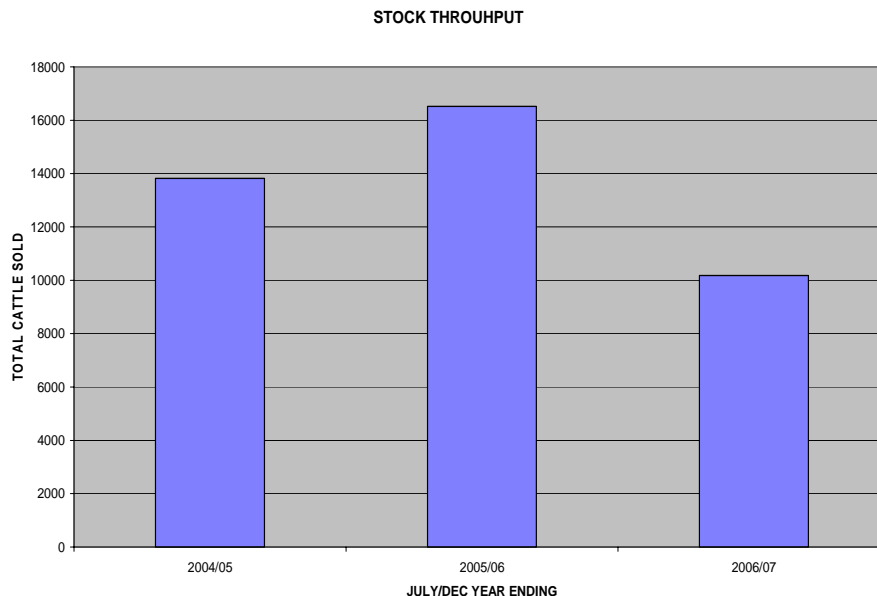
STOCK THROUGHPUT

There has been a decrease in total cattle sales for the half year to December 2006 - almost 6,336 less head of cattle than the previous year.

- 04/05 – 16,520
- 05/06 – 10,184

This has been largely due to the prevailing drought conditions across the nation. Recent rains have lifted the market and more than 1,400 head of stock were marketed at the last sale held. Stock numbers are expected to increase over the next half year, but not sufficiently to make up for the shortfall during the past half year.

Cattle are being increasingly attracted from a wider area ie. Taree to Dorrigo.



Stock Throughput July to December (last 3 financial years).

TRUCKWASH USAGE

Usage data for the truckwash facility follows:

Monthly truckwash usage	Number of uses	Charge \$
July	48	\$372.25
August	52	\$322.25

September	57	\$385.25
October	54	\$506.50
November	49	\$439.75
December	37	\$335.00
TOTAL	297	\$2,361.00

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

No known environmental implications

- *Social*

Kempsey Regional Saleyards are a community facility providing service to businesses and residents of the Macleay Valley and surrounding Shires.

- *Economic (Financial)*

Included in report.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil implications

- *Directors Review*

The Kempsey Regional Saleyard continues to develop and be recognised as a first class regional facility.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES