



**KEMPSEY**  
Shire Council

## **MAYORAL REPORT**

13<sup>th</sup> November 2007

**MM4**

### **PROPOSED MENTORING PROGRAMME FOR ABORIGINAL PERSONS**

**FILE: 617 MAYOR (NRN) {Folio No. \*}**

#### **SUMMARY:**

Proposal to repeat the mentoring programme for Aboriginal persons who would be interested in standing for Council at Council elections in 2008

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#### **DESCRIPTION:**

Kempsey has previously held a mentoring programme for Aboriginal People who would be interested in standing for election at the next Council elections. The programme used in the past has the Local Government Aboriginal Mentoring programme (document is tabled for information). To date this has not been very successful.

This proposal is that we would again undertake a mentoring programme with specific criteria to participate and remain in the programme.

Specifically: -

The programme would be based on the LGSA programme. It would be voluntary by all participants (mentors and mentees). Aboriginal People interested in the programme would need to formally apply. The programme would be restricted to 2 people at any one time. The scope of the programme and participation requirements would be clearly identified on the application form. It may be appropriate to have an information forum prior to commencing the programme. Councillors would nominate their willingness to act as a mentor (each Aboriginal participant may have more than one mentor). The mentees would need to make a commitment to attend the required council activities outlined in the programme. Failure to attend three identified activities would automatically remove a person from the programme.

Participants would be required to attend council meetings and pre meetings, attend designated committee meetings, and be involved in budget preparation sessions. Attend at least 1 community consultation and one conference.

A possible draft programme could be that over a six months period to attend the following: -

Monthly Council meetings and pre meetings  
Attend 1 Social Strategic Planning meeting  
Attend 1 Community Safety & Crime Prevention Meeting  
Attend All Aboriginal Liaison Committee meetings  
Attend 1 Arts & Cultural meeting  
Attend 1 community consultation or focus group.  
Others as identified.

Individual mentees would be able to attend additional activities as they feel appropriate.

The costs to council would be for the cost of attending a relevant conference, travel and accommodation, and the time expended by Councillors and staff in supporting the mentees. No other costs would be incurred.

**REPORT IMPLICATIONS:**

- ***Environmental***

***Nil***

- ***Social:***

***Would introduce Aboriginal people to the activities of council and hopefully enable at least one Aboriginal person to stand for Council elections in 2008.***

- ***Economic (Financial):***

***Some costs to council for participation to attend conference (travel & accommodation).***

- ***Policy or Statutory:***

***Nil***

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **For Council's determination.**
2. **If accepted for interested Councillors to nominate their interest to become mentors.**

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**E A Green**  
**MAYOR**