



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

14th August 2007

DCCS4	RESPONSE FROM MINISTERS FOR POLICE AND JUVENILE JUSTICE RE MOU
FILE: 69 GB	{Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on responses which have been received from Barbara Perry the Minister for Juvenile Justice and David Campbell the Minister for Police, in answer to Kempsey Shire Council queries regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the NSW Police Force and the Department of Juvenile Justice.

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DESCRIPTION:

At its meeting of 13th March, Council resolved to seek clarification from the two Ministers regarding the status of the MOU between the Police and Juvenile Justice departments. The two Ministers have now responded.

Barbara Perry, the Minister for Juvenile Justice reports that the MOU has been in full operation since August 2005 and that her department has implemented additional staffing resources in Kempsey in addition to existing community funded initiatives. Ms Perry states that her department met in January 2007 with the Local Police Area Commander "who indicated that the Police had no issues with the operation of the MOU."

In addition Ms Perry states that although "the department was invited to participate on Council's Crime Prevention Working Group, to date the department has not been contacted in relation to this initiative". (In fact, Ms Tamara Saunders Assistant-Manager Mid North Coast, Juvenile Justice Department was invited and attended the May meeting of that Working Party).

David Campbell, the Minister for Police advises that the MOU between the two departments "provides for the exchange of information on a case-by-case basis. It does not provide for the notification of police by the Department of the release or relocation of every juvenile offender. Issues of confidentiality in relation to the young offender's whereabouts are considered in light of his or her anticipated rehabilitation and the benefit to police in knowing of the presence of the young person in their area of responsibility.

A copy of the responses are attached at [\(Appendix C – Page J3\)](#)

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

No environmental implications

- *Social*

Nil

- *Economic (Financial)*

No economic implications

- *Policy or Statutory*

No policy implications

- *Director's Review*

This information confirms my previous advice to Council that the MOU is in place; that it relies upon the Police to activate the exchange of information on a case-by-case basis; and that the Kempsey Police had not sought information on juveniles from Juvenile Justice.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES