



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

14th August 2007

DSS1

SHERWOOD ROAD SEWERAGE

FILE: 223 GTS

{Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the status of the Sherwood Road sewerage system project

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DESCRIPTION:

Council at its meeting on 8 May 2007 considered a report detailing investigations on alternative sewerage systems to service the properties along Sherwood Road, Aldavilla. Council resolved that the concept of a modified conventional gravity system be further pursued.

An updated version of the Residents' Meeting Notes (21st Feb, 2007) and a copy of the May Council Report was sent to residents on 22nd May, 2007.

Detailed engineering assessments confirm that the most cost effective option for a conventional gravity system is for that system to connect directly into the pump station located within Corrective Services property or into the dedicated rising main from the Correctional Facility. Both options have been surveyed.

Verbal discussions have been held with project engineers from the Department of Commerce regarding these options and Council is currently awaiting a written agreement verifying these discussions. It is also understood that the Department of Commerce is close to finalising remedial actions in relation to the operational problems experienced with the current system.

Survey of the collection route at the rear of the properties to be serviced confirmed the existence of a network of stormwater drainage lines conflicting with the proposed sewerage line grading. The exacerbation of the environmental impacts of septic treatment systems by stormwater and greywater discharges had been previously identified during compliance inspections. The option of collecting and conveying stormwater to Warnes Creek via the proposed sewer easement and forming biotreatment swales within the existing drainage paths (road "reserve" and existing drainage easement) is preferred. A community water quality improvement grant (CWG) has been applied for to cover half the cost of same (\$50,000 of \$100,000). Whilst no commitments exist in this regard, the initiative is consistent with the community's expressed

expectation that grant funding would be sought. If the grant application is successful, improvements will be able to be made to the stormwater and greywater systems in conjunction with the proposed sewerage system.

Detailed design and estimates of costs for the feasible disposal points have established that the provision of a more conventional sewerage system is possible and within the previously reported cost envelope (\$500,000: DSS2 8th May, 2007). Discharge to a more remote sewer access chamber at West Kempsey has been discounted. The preferred option is to connect to the Correctional Facility pump station and reliance upon connection to the rising main is currently a fall-back position.

The finalisation of documentation, approvals and costings is being effected as determinations are made, as departmental resources permit, and as inputs from the various stakeholders are received. It is thought that outstanding items should be resolved by October with a recommended final scheme of arrangement and associated funding proposals being reported to the November meeting of Council.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

High level environmental protection.

- ***Social***

Improved health, utility and amenity.

- ***Economic (Financial)***

Final estimates of cost of works are to be determined along with funding arrangements. A current budget allocation of approximately \$250,000 exists.

- ***Policy or Statutory***

This project is needed to overcome local health and environmental concerns consequent to considerations of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act and Approvals to operate a system of sewage management as a prescribed activity under Section 68 (F10) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Clause 45 of the Local Government (Approvals) Regulation 1999.

- ***Director's Review***

The most viable and sustainable option to provide a sewerage service to the properties along Sherwood Road is to utilize the existing sewerage infrastructure servicing the Mid North Coast Correctional facility. Whilst the need for negotiations to take place with the Department of Commerce has resulted in delays to the project, it is felt that in the longer term this will be the most cost-effective solution.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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A P Vermeulen
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES