



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DELEGATES REPORT

16th January 2007

DR2	NATIONAL SEA CHANGE TASKFORCE EXECUTIVE MEETING AND AGM	
	FILE: 357	CLR JACH {Folio No. *} }

SUMMARY:

On Tuesday November 28th, 2006 I attended the Executive meeting of the Sea Change Taskforce and immediately after, the AGM of the Taskforce, held in Canberra in conjunction with the Australian Local Government Associations' National General Assembly.

◆◆◆◆◆

DESCRIPTION:

As this is a national body, it was thought wise to hold the AGM and the Executive meeting at the same time as the Congress to take advantage of as many delegates as possible being available.

Numbers of delegates at the ALGA's Congress appeared to be fewer than in previous years, but nonetheless, 32 councils were represented at the Taskforce AGM.

I have attached the Minutes of the Executive Meeting which was held in the morning ([Appendix B](#)) and the Minutes of the AGM which was held immediately afterwards ([Appendix C](#)).

You will see from the minutes that I was re-elected to the Executive, with Cr Jan Barham withdrawing her nomination at the last minute. I am grateful to Kempsey Shire Council for endorsing my nomination to this vital organisation and I trust you find the minutes and the regular newsletters of value.

Cr Fergus Thomson from Eurobodalla Council had been nominated by his council to again fill one of the two annual vacancies, but his election was contingent upon the members' resolving to fund all costs associated with attending Executive meetings. Eurobodalla Council requested that this be put to the AGM which subsequently occurred.

Delegates to the AGM agreed that individual councils who were committed enough to put forward nominees for the Executive should not have to bear the full cost of attending meetings.

Subsequently, the Executive Officer has been preparing an options paper on how to fund the added expense and the Executive is in the process of considering those options.

One of the issues I raised was that the effect of the drought across the country, but particularly west of the divide, could accelerate the demographers' predictions of the rate of inland migration to the coast. Some farming communities are so badly affected, both financially and psychologically, that they may never recover sufficiently to re-establish themselves. Accordingly we need to be even more vigilant in our determination to bring the deteriorating rate of our coastal infrastructure to the urgent attention of the federal government.

As a footnote, during the last few days the election for Chair, Deputy and Treasurer were held and I'm pleased to inform you of the results: Joe Natoli (QLD) – Chair, Barry Sammels (WA) – Deputy Chair, Neville Goodwin (VIC) – Treasurer

Again I thank council for the opportunity to be at the cutting edge of this extremely proactive and energetic organisation.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Nil.

- *Social*

Nil.

- *Economic (Financial)*

There will be a small increase in Council's membership fee (together with an increase in all membership fees) which will ensure our representatives expenses are more than adequately covered for attendance at future Seachange Taskforce meetings.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the information be noted
2. That council reaffirm its strong support for the work of the National Sea Change Taskforce.

.....
COUNCILLOR J A C HAYES