



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

16th January 2007

DSS1	AUSLINK STRATEGIC REGIONAL PROGRAMME
FILE: 197 APV	{ Folio No. * }

SUMMARY:

Reporting on advice received regarding funding under the Strategic Regional Program

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DESCRIPTION:

In April 2006 Council considered a report on the Auslink Strategic Regional Program. Council resolved to submit an application under the Small Projects Category of the program for the upgrading of the Maria River Road to an acceptable gravel standard.

A detailed submission was prepared outlining the proposed project and detailing how the project would support industry, tourism and economic development.

Council has been advised of the success of the Maria River Road Link Project in gaining funding under the program. Of the 318 submissions received Australia wide for the small project category, Kempsey Council was successful in securing \$980,000 of the total \$26.7 million available. In New South Wales only 15 projects were funded in the total amount of the \$7.5 million.

The project must be undertaken in the period between 1 July 2007 and 30 March 2009. It is proposed that the project be undertaken over 2 years with Councils contribution of \$70,000 per annum being funded from the Gravel Resheeting program.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

◆ *Environmental*

There are no Environmental Implications from the following Resolution.

◆ *Social*

The provision of a good standard road will provide an important link for industry and the community.

♦ *Economic (Financial)*

Council will need to provide \$70,000 per annum for 2 years towards this project from its Gravel Resheeting program.

♦ *Policy or Statutory*

There are no Policy or Statutory implications.

♦ *Director's Review*

As per report.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the offer of funding in the amount of \$980,000 under the Auslink Strategic Regional Program for the Maria River Road Link Project be accepted.
2. That the General Manager be authorised to sign the funding agreement.

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A P Vermeulen
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES