



## DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

13 October 2009

DSS3	UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE	INDUSTRY
	SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME	
	FILE: 7 BJM	{Folio No. *}

### SUMMARY:

Reporting on the progress to date in recruiting a scholar for the University of Newcastle Industry Scholarship Scheme (UNISS) from the Kempsey local government area.

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### DESCRIPTION:

Kempsey Shire Council has for a number of years participated in the UNISS program with the University of Newcastle. This program involves council offering a scholarship to a local student to assist with the cost of attending university to study civil engineering. As a part of the agreement the student undertakes work experience with council which consist of a 10 week placement during the summer semester break at university and a full year placement after the completion of the third year of studies.

Council has sponsored students over several years, with one student graduating last year, one due to graduate this year and one completing their third year this year. The student completing their third year will undertake a year's work placement with council next year.

Council has been unsuccessful in attracting suitable applicants during the past two years, although two applications have been received this year and interviews for selection for the scholarship were held by the Director Shire Services, in conjunction with the University on Tuesday 29 September 2009.

A preferred applicant has been determined as a result of the interviews. This applicant will be formally offered a scholarship by the university, with Kempsey Shire Council as sponsor. This offer of a scholarship is subject to the attainment of a suitable ATAR during the HSC. Council will be notified of the outcome of the interviews once the successful applicant has been notified.

### REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Nil

- **Social**

*The UNISS scholarship offered by council provides encouragement to local students to pursue a career in engineering.*

- **Economic (Financial)**

*A budgetary provision for this scholarship is included in council's human resources area under cadetships.*

- **Policy or Statutory**

Nil

- **Director's Review**

*This scheme clearly demonstrates council's desire to provide higher education opportunities for students from the local community.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1 That council endorses the decision to offer the scholarship to the successful applicant.**
- 2 That council continues to support the UNISS program with the offer of an annual scholarship.**

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**Bruce Morris**  
**DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES**