



DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

2 February 2010

DSDS1 PUBLIC HEALTH RELATED INSPECTIONS 1 JULY 2009 TO 31 DECEMBER 2009
FILE: 128 JGR {Folio No. *} }

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the Public Health Inspections undertaken by Council for the six (6) month period 1 July 2009 to 31 December 2009.

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Background

Council has undertaken a varied range of public health inspections and maintains current registers as part of its obligations to meet legislative public health requirements over the last six (6) months of 2009.

The table below summarises the number of inspection undertaken:

Public Health Function	Number of Premises	Frequency of Inspections	Fee Charged	Legislative Requirement to undertake inspection Yes/No	Compliance Notes	Number of Inspections 30/06/2009 to 2010
Septic Inspection	6,500 (approximately) Currently 5,655 registered	1-5 year Approval to operate	\$100.00 inspection fee	Yes Section 68 Local Government Act	63% comply first inspection - failed trenches	451 09 Jan-Jun 503
Food Shops	182 14	High/Risk P1 – twice yearly Medium P2 – yearly Low Risk P3 – once yearly	\$250.00 administration fee together with Inspection fee \$70.00 charged in 09/10	Yes under contract to NSW Food Authority	94% compliance first inspection	139 09 Jan-Jun 180
Skin Penetration	34	Annually	\$100.00	Council must maintain an up to date Register of premises (Public Health Regulation) Inspection not mandatory	90% comply first inspection- Non compliance with regulations NSW Health.	NIL Inspection will be undertaken in Feb 2010
Leginella Control (cooling towers)	9	Incident based inspection only	\$90.00	Council must maintain an up to date Register of Premises	-	NIL

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				(Public Health Regulations) Inspection not mandatory		
Backflow Prevention	196	Incident based inspection only	notification to owner and lodgement of service report	No Legislative requirements to inspect by Council (service arranged by owner)		Letters are being sent out with the Essential Fire Safety Statement where required.
Thermostatic Mixing Valves	Approx 10	Incident based inspection only	\$90.00 notification to owner and lodgement of service report	Not currently undertaken given available resources	-	NIL
Mortuary	2		\$142.00	Not currently undertaken given available resources	-	NIL
Private Burials	Less than 5 each year	<5	\$85.20	Prior to burial to establish if the site complies with requirements	All comply	
Caravan Parks	18	Annually	\$81.00 plus \$5.00 per site	Yes under Section 68 LGA	70% compliance-	Total 18
Private water supplies	20+	Incident based inspection only	No fee levied	Not currently undertaken given available resources	-	NIL
Public Swimming Pools	32	Annually	\$90.00	Legislative requirement to undertake inspection	Jan 2010 Inspection are being currently under taken	NIL Due Jan 2010
Environmental Health Customer Requests	1000 per annum (approximately)	Incident based inspection only	Nil	Council Service levels		1136 Environmental 09 Jan-Jun 1152

The mandatory role that local government plays in food surveillance is time consuming with 139 out of a total of 184 Food Safety inspections undertaken in this six (6) monthly reporting period.

Sustainable Development Services received 1,136 work orders for the 6 monthly reporting period, which is a slight decrease on the previous 6 monthly total of 1,152.

Of these, 1,136 customer generated work orders 413 were of an environmental nature. As in the previous reporting period the major work order numbers centred around barking dog and noise pollution issues (78), overgrown properties (80) and storm & surface water issues (22).

As the climate conditions have stabilised somewhat, there was a reduction in this period of both overgrown vegetation and stormwater issues.

The major environmental issues that were investigated during the reporting period were noise matters that can be time consuming and difficult to resolve as many involve neighbour issues.

RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS:

- **Environmental**

Nil

- *Social*

Nil

- *Economic (Financial)*

Nil

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

- *Director's Review*

Council should be aware that the environmental health function is delivered by 2.2 EFT staff.

As indicated, there are additional environmental health functions that are not currently being undertaken, given available resources. Councillors have previously requested additional and more frequent inspections be undertaken. If Council wishes to increase current service levels, it would be necessary to either divert resources away from other services or to increase staff resources.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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R B Pitt
DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES