



DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

2 February 2010

DSDS5	KEMPSEY SHIRE ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ESD) STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION
FILE: 927 NDH	{Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting to Council on the progress of implementation of actions listed in the Kempsey Shire Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) Strategy for the period July 2009 to December 2009.

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DESCRIPTION:

The Kempsey Shire ESD Strategy proposes actions over a 5 year planning horizon. During the past 6 months (from July 2009 to December 2009), work has commenced on a number of 'Year 3' actions listed in the Strategy, as well as continuing progress on a number of actions that commenced in Years 1 (07/08) and 2 (08/09), which have continued into Year 3 (09/10).

Some examples of Year 3 actions that have commenced during the reporting period include:

- Commencement of Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Planning Project;
- Commencement of capacity building project targeting best soil management practices on the coastal floodplain; and
- Preliminary scoping work for the Bypass Strategy.

A number of Year 3 actions that have continued from initial work commenced in Years 1 and 2 include:

- Production of environmental education material (brochures);
- Waterwatch Program for Primary Schools;
- Drafting of Macleay Valley Coast Vision 2030;
- Drafting of revised Cultural Plan;
- Drafting of Cycleway Plan;
- Drafting of Indigenous Employment Program;
- Preliminary Draft of the new Standard LEP;
- Drafting of the Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management;
- Further progression of studies required for the Macleay Estuary Management Plan;
- Completion of Korogoro Creek Estuary Management Plan;
- Implementation of the Gills Bridge Creek Rehabilitation Plan;

- Residential Land Release Strategy;
- Water saving activities at caravan parks and Council's reserves.
- Implementation of Waste Management Strategy;
- Continued waste education programs;
- Further follow-up rounds of environmental reviews of South Kempsey industrial premises; and
- Implementation of key actions of Crime Prevention Plan.

A full list of the current status of all actions implemented throughout the past 2½ years is shown in [\(Appendix A - Page SDS1\)](#).

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- **Environmental**

Implementation of a number of high priority environmental projects as recommended in the Kempsey Shire ESD Strategy are providing for positive environmental outcomes.

- **Social**

Implementation of a number of high priority social projects as recommended in the Kempsey Shire ESD Strategy are providing for positive social outcomes.

- **Economic (Financial)**

Implementation of a number of high priority economic projects as recommended in the Kempsey Shire ESD Strategy are providing for positive economic outcomes.

Continued allocation of approximately \$15,000 per annum for ESD Implementation over the 5 year planning horizon is recommended to cover the cost of some of the smaller projects, including development of educational material and subscription to support programs such as the Cities for Climate Protection Program.

- **Policy or Statutory**

There are a number of legal requirements for implementing the principles of ESD. The Local Government Act (1993) and Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979) are the main pieces of legislation driving ESD.

A full review of the Strategy was proposed following 3 years of implementation, which will occur in July this year. Review of the ESD Strategy will take place as part of an overall review of the community's priorities. The ESD Strategy will eventually need to be integrated with the new Integrated Planning and Reporting system, however, Council is not scheduled to report under the new system until 2012.

- **Director's Review**

At its meeting of 8 September 2009 Council resolved to adopt 9 geographic communities as the basis for identifying actions and priorities through the preparation of Local Action Plans (LAP) for each community to be incorporated in the Management Plan, Operational Plan and long term budget.

It is noted that the ESD Strategy is due to be reviewed in 2010/11. It is recommended that the format and relevance of the Strategy be reviewed in conjunction with the development of the proposed LAPS.

Depending on the priorities identified for each community, the ESD Strategy may provide a coordinated mechanism to ensure actions under the LAPS address the triple bottom line reporting framework which is prime purpose of the ESD Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. That the information be noted.**
- B. That the ESD Strategy be reviewed in conjunction with the development of the proposed Local Action Plans for the Shire's geographic communities.**

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R B Pitt
DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES