



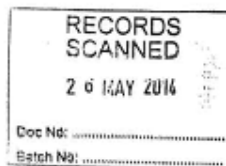
2014/15 Delivery Program Submissions to Fees and Charges

11 George Pearse Place
EAST BALLINA NSW 2478

66 862940

23 May 2014

The General Manager
Ballina Shire Council
Cherry Street
BALLINA NSW 2478



Attention: Paul Hickey and Peter Morgan

Dear Sirs

Re: Rates and draft Operational Plan 2014/15

I note Council's recent advertisements concerning proposed increases in general rates and charges and also the proposals to increase water access and consumption charges by 9% and wastewater/sewer access and usage charges by 10%.

As an owner, resident and ratepayer of two East Ballina properties, I wish to point out that these constant increases to our rates seem to be never ending and more severe each year with apparently little thought given to the financial situation of many Ballina Shire ratepayers. In these times, it is difficult to increase rents and costs such as insurance and other charges are also being increased because, for some peculiar reason, Ballina Shire Council kindly often points out in the media that the town is flood-prone while calling for submissions of lovely pictures showing just how badly! Insurance companies obviously love this free information and use it to their advantage. Many properties are thus uninsured or the premiums so unaffordable to be beyond acceptance by pensioners and self-funded retirees.

So many long-time and recent residents of this Shire are on very low and fixed incomes with little prospect of any improvement, especially as many of us still have frozen investments in local property and mortgage trusts. Where exactly does Council expect us to find this extra money each year?

I believe it is quite difficult these days to set up a brothel with many Council requirements to be met. Many retired ladies must be getting to the point of wondering exactly how they can make ends meet and consequently meet their financial obligations to you. Does Council care about the individual situations of its ratepayers? Even if ratepayers are finding the going a bit tough and defer rate payments, they are still charged interest, I believe. You lodge these advertisements in the press each year and expect us all to just pay up with no argument. Do you make an effort to look within your own organisation for any savings to help save us? You sneak the garbage and sewerage and water charges up bit by bit each year and it doesn't sound like a lot if you read it quickly BUT rates are climbing towards \$1,000.00 per quarter in what appears to be an unstoppable tide yet many of us see little for our money. We even sort out our rubbish for you and don't get a free ticket for the tip each year as our reward, as we did previously, let alone be blessed with an occasional kerb-side collection. When the hailstorm hit us a couple of years ago and we collected trailer loads of leaf litter and rubbish from the street, you charged us to dump it for you!

2

I understand that there have been major leaks in old water pipes in Ballina ongoing for many years, which has cost Council up to \$1 million in uncollected water rates. Why was that situation allowed to continue and how much of that lost income has been passed onto ratepayers who always try to conserve their own water usage? It seems like a waste of effort to me, when water is seeping away into the ground out of sight. How can you expect us to be frugal when you know there is such waste going on all day and night? It's rather unfair of you to suggest people use water saving methods such as washing cars on the lawn and using shut off hose nozzles when treated water is simply being lost, unchecked.

Ratepayers should be able to expect that every dollar asked from them can be justified and is finely examined and only then, passed onto them. I hope this is taking place this year before the rates are finally set. If you are not already aware of it, the op shops and food banks are thriving and the town is not doing as well as some people would wish and many people are hurting. Council should do its bit and hurt a bit too.

Finally, I offer the following, from a small snippet from a book of "jokes". Unfortunately, it isn't funny to some people, I suppose, but very apt, just the same.

"IGNORANCE WAS BLISS"

The Town Clerk in London commissioned some efficiency experts to suggest methods for reducing municipal expenditure. After an investigation, the efficiency experts submitted a report stating that the most expedient savings could be achieved by firing the Town Clerk".

Yours faithfully



Leona Ross

2



15 Clare Street
Alstonville 2477
5th April, 2014

The Shire Clerk
Ballina Shire Council
Cherry street
Ballina 2480

My wife and I recently attended a function in the private room at the Ballina Lighthouse Beach Club House. As a result we have made a tentative booking for 21st September to celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary.

We were quoted on the phone \$550 for Room 2, but on lodging the "incredible" application form, were advised that it may increase to \$750. I admit that having grown up in the depression years of the 1930's that present day costs all seem exorbitant but this room charge seems excessive particularly when we are required to set up the room as well.

I have written previously to Council on the ever increasing annual rates charges and feel that this new Council facility should be available to rate payers at a reasonable rate and ask that this should be considered when reviewing rates which I believe is to take place soon. Lower rates would also encourage greater use by the community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Max Moffitt".

Max Moffitt



2014/15 Delivery Program Submissions to Works and Services



Surf Life Saving Far North Coast Branch Inc.

Dear Mr Hickey
Attention Councillors

RE: Provision of Lifeguards - Shelly Beach

The Surf Life Saving Far North Coast Branch (Branch) would like to request that the provision of Lifeguard services at Shelly Beach, Ballina be reviewed.

Currently Shelly Beach is patrolled by a single Lifeguard during the Christmas School holidays and no patrols are provided during the September and April School Holidays or at Easter. A copy of the 2013/14 roster is included:

Beach	Start Date	Finish Date	Details
Lighthouse Beach	23/09/2013 23/12/2013 14/04/2014	04/10/2013 24/01/2014 25/04/2014	9am-5pm 1 Lifeguard Mon - Fri Volunteers on weekends and public holidays
Shelly Beach	21/12/2013	27/01/2014	9am-5pm 1 Lifeguard 7 days a week
Lennox Head Beach	23/09/2013	26/04/2014	2 Lifeguards Mon-Fri Volunteers on weekends and public holidays
Sharpes Beach	21/09/2013 21/12/2013 12/04/2014	07/10/2013 27/01/2014 27/04/2014	9am -5pm 2 Lifeguards 7 days a week

The Branch requests that consideration be given to the provision of a Lifeguard at Shelly Beach during all school holidays and Easter so providing the same service as at Lighthouse Beach, Sharpes Beach and Lennox Head Beach.

Even with the completion of the new Lifesaving Clubhouse at Lighthouse Beach, Shelly Beach continues to be a very popular beach. Often conditions will differ at each of the beaches so making one beach safer and more popular than the other beach. There are often times when Lighthouse Beach has few people while Shelly Beach is heavily used and has no Lifeguards.

• Telephone: 0427808707 • Email: branch.slsfnc@gmail.com • ABN: 41 046 815 250
• Surf Life Saving Far North Coast Inc. • PO Box 54, Evans Head 2473 • Website: www.slsfnc.com.au

The Branch strongly supports the provision of two Lifeguards at a patrol location for the safety of the Lifeguards and the public. This, however, has significantly increased the cost of providing the Lifeguard Service. Shelly Beach is located close to Lighthouse Beach where two Lifeguards are on patrol. Should the provision of a Lifeguard at Shelly Beach during all school holidays and Easter be supported the Branch would be happy to discuss with Ballina Council the option to help fund a Branch Jet Ski for the use of the Lifeguards and volunteers surf life savers housed at the Ballina Surf Club.

The provision of a Jet Ski would enable quick response times and support to the Shelly Beach Lifeguard. This rescue Jet Ski could be activated for rescues on the Ballina Bar and help support the Ballina Jet Rescue Boat and Marine Rescue. The provision of three Lifeguards on these two beaches would also enable flexibility in servicing the two beaches so that when Shelly Beach is busy and Lighthouse Beach is quiet Lifeguards can be moved to meet the needs of the public.

Yours faithfully



Debbie Pawsey
Director of Administration
Ph: 0427808707
fncreq@biapond.net.au



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Dear Paul

RE: Renovation of Public Toilets - Shelly Beach Surf Life Saving Club House

During 2013 Wilson Cregan FNCSLS Branch President and Elton Cummings met with you at Shelly Beach and had discussions with you regarding the Surf Life Saving Far North Coast Branch's (Branch) proposals to renovate the Shelly Beach Club House.

The Branch holds the Licence to utilise the Shelly Beach building and is keen to carry out much needed repairs and renovation of the building.

The building is in poor condition and the proposed work includes repairs to the exterior brick work that is deteriorating, replacement of the deck and internal reconfiguration of the building to suit the needs of the Branch. The internal works involve the provision of toilet facilities for the use of the Branch. Other works include the provision of facilities for the Lifeguards who patrol Shelly Beach.

The public toilets are in very poor condition and in need of extensive renovation. The plans prepared for the proposed works have included the upgrading of the public toilets, providing newly configured toilets that are all wheel chair and family friendly. Council staff member (Mr Chris Trainor) was involved in preparation of the plans for the renovation of the public toilets in early 2013 and the cost of the works on the public toilets was then estimated at \$50,000.

The Branch has been and will continue to seek funding for the proposed works to renovate and upgrade the building. As you will understand grant funding is scarce and to date the Branch has not been successful. There continues to be grant opportunities in the future and there are a number of options available to the Branch depending on the nature and size of the grants on offer.

Where a large grant is available such as the Club GRANTS Category 3 (which will again be available for application in September) then the work required to upgrade the public toilets can be included in the works requested under that grant.

However smaller grants may be available and these could be used to carry out stages of the proposed works such as replacement of the deck or installation of toilet facilities for the internal users of the building. These smaller grants do not usually allow for work on public toilets.



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To assist the Branch in its planning and ongoing grant applications, information is sought on any plans that Ballina Council has for the renovation of the public toilets at Shelly Beach and in particular the timing of planned works.

During your visit discussions included the option for the Branch to carry out the upgrading of the public toilets at its cost and to then be reimbursed by Council for these works when the work was scheduled to be carried out.

There are benefits in carrying out all work on the building at the same time as cost savings can be achieved on a larger project. Would Ballina Council consider as an option reimbursing the Branch for the renovation of the public toilets?

Yours faithfully



Debbie Pawsey
Director of Administration
Ph: 0427808707
fncreg@bigpond.net.au



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THE SOUTH BALLINA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Representing the district of South Ballina.

c/- 440 South Ballina Beach Road,
 SOUTH BALLINA, NSW. 2478

President: Lorraine Leuckel; Vice President: Bill Allen; Secretary Rikki Grinberg; Treasurer Frannie Stanek.

CORRESPONDENCE TO: Ph. 0427847057 or email Rikki@mullum.com.au

19 May, 2014.

Attention Mike Sivikis,
 Ballina Shire Council,
 BALLINA BY EMAIL.

Dear Sir, regarding the survey on what makes our community special and what is needed to help make our community more family friendly, the South Ballina Community Association has compiled a submission based on the general meeting of the community Association held on 24 May. Here are those findings:-

1. VILLAGE STATUS the South Ballina community formally requests that Council give the area village status;
2. MEETING HALL and that the Council apply funds and land for a village meeting hall with recreational facilities such as a large meeting hall, childrens' playground, half basketball court, tennis court. We suggest that the lot on the corner of Keith Hall Lane and River Drive is ideal as it is already correctly zoned and already has a certain amount of infrastructure;
3. TOILETS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT the community would like public toilets and waste bins placed at the South Wall, and waste bins at the ferry and South Wall, and when a recreational/meeting hall is built to also include these facilities at that site;
4. COMMUNITY SIGNAGE the community association formally requests that Council places a signboard for community association meeting notices on the approach to the ferry and on the sign board at the ferry;
5. MORE WILDLIFE AND BIKE RIDER SIGNS – the area is significant for its wildlife and an increasing number of bike riders are present on South Ballina roads. More signage is essential to prevent wildlife and rider fatalities;
6. SOUTH WALL – the south wall is a significant tourist attraction and needs re-roading, and a proper viewing structure created at the end to elevate it for whale and dolphin viewing (similar t to the North Wall walk). The car park is adequate in size, however the walkways to the end and to the beach are in a dangerous state and need to be properly constructed and maintained. We also request that this walkway be disabled friendly;
7. THE SOUTH BEACH 4WD ACCESS – this is a very popular 4wd area and needs proper signage to it
 - a. at the corner of River Drive and South Ballina Beach Road,
 - b. at the Corner of Burns Point Ferry Road and River Street and
 - c. at the corner of Pacific Highway and River Drive Wardell, as well as better infrastructure around it.
8. BETTER SIGNAGE – there needs to be better signage to the caravan parks on South Beach Road, both from the entrance off the Pacific Highway at Wardell and from the Ferry. Many tourists are being misdirected by their GPS and end up in dead end roads or farmers paddocks, which is very dangerous and of course a problem for the farmers.
9. INCLUSION IN THE BALLINA TOURIST INFORMATION BROCHURE: South Ballina as an area and featuring the National Parks, 4WD access, South wall and caravan parks needs promotion in the council tourist booklet.

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10. FERRY PROMOTION: we urgently request that Council do the following
 - a. include the ferry in all promotional material to help boost ferry income.
 - b. To this end we believe that the ferry should also be themed in a visitor friendly way. Decorative flagging, special promotions, ferry stickers, ferry passports, fish feeding fees etc.
 - c. That the ferry operation be passed over to a community trust to administer and operate;
 - d. That the ferry land on the north side be allocated for a tourist precinct and the building of a café, and other tourist related retails items;
 - e. That certain safety measures be implemented at the south ferry entrance, including a turn circle, parabolic mirror and lights (red, orange and green) to replace the dysfunctional boom gates).
11. FERRY REPLACEMENT OPTION as Council has clearly stated that it will not replace the ferry in the event of infrastructure destruction due to cataclysm, which is unacceptable to the rate payers of the South Ballina isthmus., Without a ferry service, and with the possible loss of River Drive during a cataclysm, then a disaster replacement plan is required by the community for any damage to ferry infrastructure to ensure the safe egress and ingress of the community.
12. MARKETS FAIRS AND FUN: The community would like an area to hold community fairs, fun days and farmers and swap meet markets.
13. BROADBAND AND NBN – it is notable that no household or business on the isthmus can get broadband or nbn from any provider. As there is now a large amount of business and education as well as many private homes and home based businesses on the south side, this communications infrastructure is essential. We formally ask that Council lobby both Telstra and the Federal government in regard to improving this. We ask that a person from Council be nominated to work on this and liaise with the community association.
14. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN – in the event of a widespread emergency there is a need for an evacuation and emergency plan for the area, and in particular the school.
15. TOURIST ROUTE – The River Drive route south to the Pacific Highway is worthy of 'Tourist Drive' classification and we ask that Council approach the RTA and NSW Government to acquire this status and signage. This would have the additional benefit of boosting ferry income.
16. BIKE FRIENDLY – South Ballina welcomes the bike riders, but would like to see River Drive and South Ballina Beach Road, be widened and a bike lane included on the shoulders. Once again we petition the Council to introduce a 'gold coin' fee to bike riders using the ferry.
17. REZONING – there is a considerable amount of land that is ideal for subdivision for family homes sized lots in the isthmus. It should be a priority that Council work with the community association and identify preferred areas for rezoning for housing.
18. SOUTH BALLINA ISTHMUS IS UNDER FUNDED – we formally request that an officer with Council be nominated to work with the South Ballina Community Association for the purposes of accessing funding and grants through available Section 94 funds. We note that as a region, our area has received NO FUNDING at all in comparison to other similar communities and that this is inequitable and clearly discriminatory against the community. It is urgent that Council assist us to address this issue.

Please contact the Secretary Rikki Grinberg on 0427847057 or email Rikki@mullum.com.au with regard to the above matters. A formal response from Council is requested.

Yours faithfully,

LORRAINE LEUCKEL
President,
SOUTH BALLINA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION.

From: Kyme Lavelle [<mailto:Kyme.Lavelle@rouswater.nsw.gov.au>]
Sent: Friday, 13 June 2014 2:12 PM
To: Paul Hickey
Subject: Richmond River County Council

Afternoon Paul

Thought I might touch base to advise Lismore and Richmond Valley Councils have agreed to contribute \$35,000 to the CZMP implementation as distributed. I'm aware your plan for next year did not include this contribution due to timing issues with its preparation.

Is there any chance you could review your position to enable progression of a united approach to the State agencies for matching grants or additional funds . I have written to both Thomas George and Don Page and they have confirmed their representations with the Office of Environment and Heritage seeking matching support to the program. Local Reps from Premier and Cabinet have advised that there are also opportunities to secure additional funding through Local Land Services under the CAP Plan for CZMP Implementation.

To assist in this regard and should you have an opportunity to adjust your budget or review any other funding options in relation to our submission, attached is a 10 year financial forecast for your Council incorporating all programs.

ARC Blackwater Study

For your information (David may have already communicated this to you as he was at the meeting) , discussions were held with SCU regarding the current project status and any opportunity to reduce future or non-committed resources without jeopardising the project outcome. SCU have advised that only a minor amount of funds are uncommitted and have strongly recommended against this course of action.

Despite our best efforts, I confirm neither LCC or RVC will be contributing any funds towards the finalisation of the project.

This project is too important to abandon. I am genuinely excited about the potential for significantly improved management strategies for improving water quality in the estuary especially in the identification of areas where elements compound deoxygenation leading to fish kills. In fact based on our discussions with SCU, I believe there might be IP opportunities with this study when completed because of its leading edge nature.

My position will be to recommend to RRCC Council that it provides the necessary funding of \$160,000 over 2 years to complete the project which I expect will be supported.

This recognises BSC's committed contribution of \$40,000 in 2014/15 and \$40,000 in 2015/16, therefore requiring RRCC to fund \$80,000 in 2014/15 and \$80,000 in 2015/16.

1

RRCC will become more active in monitoring the project with SCU and will become the conduit for information and reports to BSC.

Paul, this project has caused some unfortunate angst for our organisations and I trust this course of action concludes the matter.

Given the communication and interpretation issues with this project, I have adjusted our communication protocols and advised staff that all correspondence regarding binding financial arrangements between Councils will be in writing between the respective General Managers. It would be appreciated if you could convey this information to your staff accordingly.

In terms of future communication, I think there is a need for a meeting with yourself or your executive team every 6 or 12 months to report on progress in each County and to raise any issues we both may need address. This arrangement is now in place with Richmond Valley Council programmed to occur in May and November each year.

Given there are a few issues in this email, please advise if you want to meet to discuss the matters raised ?

Regards,

Regards
Kyme Lavelle
General Manager
Rous Water | Richmond River County Council | Far North Coast Weeds
PO Box 230
LISMORE NSW 2480
T: (02) 6621 8055
F: (02) 6622 1181



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Rous Water | Richmond River County Council | Far North Coast Weeds
218-232 Molesworth Street
Lismore NSW 2480
Australia

Ballina Shire Council

Funding forecast to Richmond River County Council

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
Rate pegging	2.5%	2.8%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	
Recurrent constituent council contributions											
BSC contribution	192,000	197,300	203,200	209,300	215,600	222,100	228,800	235,700	242,800	250,100	2,196,900
Fx Drainage Union	38,000	39,000	40,200	41,400	42,600	43,900	45,200	46,600	48,000	49,400	434,300
Service Level Agreements											
Catchment Activities Model	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	10,000
Additional Project Requests											
CZMP	35,000	36,750	38,600	40,500	42,500	44,600	46,800	49,100	51,500	54,000	455,200
SCU -ARC Blackwater Study Requested	40,000	40,000									80,000
BSC Initiated requests (OEH)											0
Nil											0
	306,000	314,050	283,000	297,200	301,700	311,600	326,900	332,550	343,500	359,800	3,176,400

To: Paul Hickey, General Manager

Dear Mr Hickey

Further to the submission presented to the C Ward meeting at Crawford House on 8th May concerning the acknowledgement of the 150th Anniversary of Alstonville, the Society would like to suggest a more acceptable location for the local basalt (volcanic origin) boulder.

The suggestion is the island in Parkland Drive. It is about 50 metres in from Ballina Road. There is a street light nearby.

The proposed wording on the plaque that will be attached to the boulder is"

"You are now entering the Fairfield Estate
which was settled in 1865 by
Andrew and Thomas Freeborn.
This was the first land selection in Duck Creek Mountain, now Alstonville.
Placed here in 2015 on the 150th Anniversary"

The Society would hope that the Shire could see fit to landscape an area around the proposed cairn.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Liz Marshall
Correspondence Secretary

Alstonville Plateau Historical Society
Crawford House Museum
10 Wardell Rd, Alstonville NSW 2477
Tel 02 6628 1829
www.aphsmuseum.org.au

**Action Item - "C" Ward Committee Meeting
Thursday 8 May 2014**

Action is required for the following "C" Ward Item.

Items raised by members of the Committee

Ina le Bas – 150th celebration of the settlement of Duck Creek Mountain

Ina spoke to the Committee on this proposal and tabled the following information.

Andrew's grave is near Alphadale Church. Alternate sites for a plaque were discussed.

Cr David Wright suggested that the Society send a letter to Council detailing the proposal for consideration.

Some discussion took place about a dinner with descendants from USA present. It was suggested that the Society talk to service clubs about this idea.

Information noted.

Freeborn presentation to C Ward Councillors 8 May 2014
150th celebration of the settlement of Duck Creek Mountain 2015
Andrew Freeborn and his brother Thomas were the first settlers in 1865
having settled on Lots 1 and 2

Andrew became the first person from the area to commercially sell butter in Sydney. It was shipped in wooden kegs to Sydney. He also grew arrowroot. When Thomas died in 1884 he took over his land and later bought Lot 7. Thomas' land now has the Abstonville Bowling Club, playing fields and Geoff Watt Oval built on it. The first cricket match was played there in 1876.

The society is preparing to renovate Andrew's grave at Wollongbar and to add a black granite memorial under the headstone stating that Andrew Freeborn was the first selector in Duck Creek Mountain (now Alstonville)



The society is seeking the Shire's approval to place a 3 tonne boulder with suitable inscription at the entrance of the Fairfield Estate to commemorate the 150th founding of Abstonville. The society has in mind the above area in South Street.

Andrew and Ellen had 11 children. Their fifth child, William Freeborn married Isabella Cooke and their children were Walter, Allan, Alice, Nellie, William, Daisy and Wallace.



William Jar, William Sr, Allan, Walter, Isabella, Alice Front: Nellie & Daisy.
Wallace and Mary born later.

Alan, Nellie and William all migrated to the USA.

The society is in touch with the descendants of Allan and William and although they reside in the USA they are preparing to visit Alstonville for the 150th celebrations.

Im le Bas

Vice President of the Abstonville Plateau Society and
Descendant of Isabella Freeborn

ANDREW FREEBORN
FIRST LAND SELECTOR
IN 1865
WITH BROTHER THOMAS
DUCK CREEK MOUNTAIN
(NOW ALSTONVILLE)

Jay Ellis

From: craigbell50@gmail.com <no-reply@evernote.com>
Sent: Friday, 13 June 2014 9:59 AM
Subject: submission on draft operational plan

Kindly receive the message below which is a submission from Ballina Environment Society. I am sending it from my I-pad whilst travelling, hence the unusual address of the source. Thank you for your kind acknowledgement of receipt.

Lee Andresen
Vic-President
Ballina Environment Society

submission on draft operational plan

BALLINA ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY INC.
PO BOX 166 BALLINA NSW 2478

13th June 2014

The General Manager
Ballina Shire Council
council@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Draft Operational Plan 2014/2015 - Submission

Ballina Environment Society seeks leave to express its deep concern over two matters which appear to have been omitted or neglected in the draft Operational Plan 2014/2015. It is our hope that before its adoption, the draft might be amended to take each of these matters into account for the benefit of the Shire.

1. Equitable distribution of responsibility to resource shire-wide Natural Resource Management (Bushcare)

It is no secret that Council's present rate base is insufficient to enable proper funding of Council's full NRM responsibilities. It is our view that the natural environment's management cannot be left to the vagaries of uncertain and unreliable resourcing through grants, which in any case are liable to become decreasingly available in the coming years.

It is also the case that the present dedicated Officer having oversight of NRM within Open Spaces and Reserves does not have the time, resources or capacity to engage with Bushcare-based NRM at the level we know he deeply wishes to. He is doing an outstanding job but it is too big and too wide-ranged to enable him to be out in the field doing all the things a Bushcare support officer needs to do.

Other Shires recognise this as a serious issue and solve the problem by taking the simple and widely accepted step of implementing a small Environmental Levy on ratepayers. Even at a very modest level this levy would fund, for instance, at least a dedicated part-time Natural Resource Management (Bushcare) Officer whose responsibilities would include liaising with and supporting all Bushcare, Landcare, Coastcare and Rivercare groups and individuals shire-wide, advising them on their projects and planning, advising them when making their own grant applications, and coordinating the overall delivery and resourcing of NRM through our extensive volunteer workforce.

The burden of NRM currently rests inequitably on those individuals who happily volunteer their time, energy and resources to form Landcare-type groups. They put in thousands of person-hours every year, and at present constitute - virtually in its entirety - the NRM outreach across the Shire. Council of course supports them in kind, and this is appreciated. But the present setup is manifestly insufficient to enable the job to be done properly.

A levy is a simple, fair and equitable way of distributing the burden of NRM management across all ratepayers, since it is that entire ratepayer base who ultimately benefits from having a well-managed environment across the Shire. The volunteer outreach remains of course, since it is indispensable. In fact it is likely to grow once a proper system of support becomes available. With a levy in place supporting a dedicated Bushcare officer to coordinate and support that volunteer work, much more could be achieved and all with no drain whatever on Council's core of fiscal resources.

We therefore urge Council to study what other NRM-aware Shires have been doing for years, all with clearly outstanding outcomes, and for the sake of this Shire's natural environment develop as a priority a levy-based NRM resource base, to operate within the Open Spaces and Reserves section and under the oversight of the present Officer.

2. Environmental Weed control management

The single most critical threat the Shire's natural environment faces is from invasive feral vegetation spreading almost uncontrolled across native vegetation in reserves as well as road corridors.

We urge Council to allocate a budget specifically for the purpose of environmental weed management and control in reserves and road corridors across the shire, so that no longer will we have to depend on borrowing funds from other areas (as happens at present) or depending on increasingly rare and uncertain public grants.

The resourcing of this responsibility could well be considered in connection with our proposal for a levy-funded NRM Officer, and be coordinated by that Officer within their job description.

Yours faithfully

Lee Andresen
Vice-President
andresen.lw@gmail.com
bes2478@gmail.com

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Promoting access, participation and equity for women and girls through sport and recreation

BALLINA DRAFT DELIVERY PLAN AND OPERATIONAL PLAN 2014/2015 - 2017/2018

Submission by:
Bree Calderwood
PO Box 147, Sydney Markets NSW 2127
E-mail: womensportnsw@gmail.com

Good afternoon.

I am making this submission on behalf of Womensport & Recreation NSW Inc, a state-wide not for profit organisation that promotes equity, access & participation for women & girls through sport & recreation. Through our current long-term strategic planning project one of our deliverables is to work with the NSW Division of Local Government (DLG) to develop procedures for Councils to address the objectives of increased equity, participation & access for women & girls in sport & recreation.

While we note that some aspects of the above mission have been addressed in Council's Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2014/2015 - 2017/2018 (refer Strategic Goals: CC3.1.2, CC3.2.1, CC3.2, CC3.1.3 and CC3.2.1) in relation to providing high quality passive and active recreational facilities for the use of the community and visitors, we believe that Council could achieve greater outcomes through further enhancement of the Delivery and Operational Plan as follows:

- ***Delivery Program Principal Activity 2014/2015 - 2017/2018: Ensure that a range of active recreation, leisure and sporting opportunities is available for all ages, genders, ethnicities, ability levels and socio-economic groups.***
- ***Operational Plan Action 2014 – 2015: Partnerships established with service providers, neighbouring councils, Regional Organisation of Councils, Sporting associations and Sports Clubs to improve participation outcomes to under represented groups.***

Action:

- Annually monitor participation rates for local community sport clubs;
- Provide quality recreation and sport development programs. (Council seeks to provide young people with a range of leisure activities along with opportunities for personal development).
- Council could provide a range of activities suitable for various age groups- maybe could list some specific programs/activities?)

Patron Hon Pru Goward, MP | Ambassadors Alex Blackwell, Kerri Pottharst, Naazmi Johnston, Jayme Paris, Eunice Grimes and Jess Gardiner.

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Promoting access, participation and equity for women and girls through sport and recreation

- As a measure of access to recreation facilities for females, it would be great if Council commenced (or continues if so doing) collecting data on sports field & facilities bookings by gender to provide a baseline for determining future progress. Information provided by other councils indicates the level of usage by females is likely to be less than 20% of all Council bookings. Having this type of data would enable Council to engage with Youth Groups & existing sport & recreation clubs to consider ways of increasing this to something nearer to 50% while providing a meaningful performance measure to be used as an indicator across the life of the Plan & beyond;

Action:

- Develop initiatives to increase participation for local community sport clubs and support their role in building healthy, well connected communities;
- Council should consider appropriate performance measures to be used as indicators for the life of the Plan

Action:

- In regards to future facility upgrades being undertaken (implemented adopted sports fields, proposed indoor sports facility, playground upgrade and provision of skate park), we would like Council to consider the following:
- Amenities - incorporate features that address females' needs, such as working locks on cubicles & showers; mirrors; adequate lighting etc;
- Referees' & officials' rooms - if having these, appropriate to have 2 rooms ie. a separate room for males & females, rather than having them share 1 facility;
- lighting - should be sufficient to make night-time & evening access safe from carparks & public transport drop-off zones, & also generally moving around the common areas of the sports facility

Thank you for your time in consideration of the above. Should you wish to discuss anything contained herein in more detail we can be contacted on (02) 8116 9734 or at office@womensportnsw.com.au

Kind regards,
Bree Calderwood
Administration Manager, Womensport & Recreation NSW Inc

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From: Lennox Residents <lhrainc@email.com>
Date: 16 June 2014 10:48:01 am AEST
To: <phickey@ballina.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: BSC Draft Delivery and Operational Plan

Dear Mr. Hickey,
Please find attached the LHRA response to the Ballina Shire Council's draft Delivery plan. Our response represents both the immediate concerns and long term aims of the LHRA as well as community issues which were identified in our Residents' Survey taken at the Love Lennox Carnival on June 7.
Thank you for the presentation of the draft plan at the public meeting and for the opportunity to offer our response.
Kind regards,
Margaret Shaw
Secretary, LHRA

**Lennox Head Residents' Association Submission on Ballina Shire Draft
Delivery Plan 2014/15-2017/18**

The LHRA is appreciative of the General Manager and Mayor's presentation of the above Delivery Plan. The presentation in a public forum was both instructive and helpful.

The 'take outs' from the meeting and observations from a review of the Delivery Plan document are set out below.

Category	D.P. Strategy	LHRA Response
Encourage Volunteering	CC2.1B. Co-ordinate Gardens Volunteer Programme	Lennox Head Community Main Street Village garden programme needs Funding allocation:\$10000
CC3.1 Equitable Access to Community Services/ Facilities	3.1.3 Ensure Appropriate Provision of Recreational Facilities	Williams Reserve Irrigation requirements Bring forward funding for Grey water reticulation to Williams Reserve Ross Park Improvement for Gardens and Main Street Garden Improvement: Additional Funding and resources required: \$10000 Main Street Toilet facility near Ross Park Requires additional funding to gain completion: \$15000
PE1.1 Promote Our Area as an Attractive place to invest & visit	PE1.1.1A Implement Regional Visitor Services Strategy	Initiate a Tourist Information Office for Lennox Head and man it with Volunteers \$26000

	PE1.1.1E Improve Promotional Interpretive Signage	Review and Redevelop with Stake Holder Consultation Community Notice Board in Ross Park \$10000
	PE1.1.2B Progress Coastal Shared Path	Progress Coastal Shared to Lennox Head (As per Schedule and Budget and Grant Facilities)
PE1.2 Provide Infrastructure that Supports Business & Delivers Economic Benefits	PE1.2.2A Undertake Review of Lennox Head Town Master Plan	Bring Funding Forward to 2014/15 and undertake New Lennox Village Renewal Planning Process with Community Consultation \$50000
	PE1.2.2.C Continue Town Centre Enhancement Programme	Allocate Funds to Lennox Head Village and Main Street Enhancement. Support Volunteers in Improving Gardens and Main Street Visual Attractiveness. Streetscape needs refreshment \$25000
	HE1.2C Complete Review of Lake Ainsworth Management Plan and Implement Actions Arising	Critically Review Lake Ainsworth Management Plan and determine reasons for delay in implementing initiatives which sustain the health of the Lake. Integrate emergent actions to Complete Urban Proposals and ensure Connell Wagner Report is implemented with Closure of the East Rd. (As per Capex 2014/15)
HE1.2 Promote Initiatives that Improve our Natural Environment		

HE1.3.2 Undertake Actions to Beautify our Streetscapes and Open Spaces	HE1.3.2A Proactively Plant Street Trees	Offer Assistance to Volunteers to Plant Street Trees in Main Street and Williams Reserve periphery. Help Land Care with Provision of Trees to envelop the Headland areas
EL1.2 Involve Our Community in Planning and Decision Making Processes of Council	EL1.2.1A Improve Consultation Methods to Increase Community Involvement	Adopt open and Participative Approach to Changes which Affect the Community. Enable Community to gain a Sense of Ownership of the Change Process
Other Matters Not in the Document	Traffic Black Spot: Ross Lane	With Increasing Traffic Volumes and Population Growth an Assessment of Ross Lane Remediation is recommended. Studies need to be undertaken on feasibility of straightening the Road and rendering it Flood Proof
	Lennox Head Village Parking and Traffic Issues	Advance Planning needs to be Undertaken Concerning Population Growth and Village Traffic Congestion. Real Consideration is necessary regarding One Way Streets and setting aside Land for a Parking Station.
CAPEX	Public Amenity/Main St Toilet Block	Allocation of \$15000 to 2014/15 to ensure completion
ROADS	Lake Ainsworth/Lennox Head Surf Club	Funding Beyond 2014/15 Required
	Stewart Street	Bring forward Funding to 2014/15 It needs earlier Remedial Work

Conclusion: Thank you for the opportunity to make comments and observations. The commentary is made as constructively as possible and our Association looks forward to working co-operatively with Council on the proposals included in this response.

Best regards,

Graham Shaw