

Communities Standing Committee Meeting

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, that the next Meeting of the Central Highlands Regional Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, 65 Egerton Street, Emerald** on

Tuesday, 13 February 2018
At 10.15 am

For the purpose of considering the items included on the Agenda.

Jason Bradshaw
Acting Chief Executive Officer

OUR VISION

A progressive region creating opportunities for all

OUR MISSION

We are a council committed to continuous improvement, a sustainable future and efficient investment in our communities

OUR VALUES

Respect and Integrity
Accountability and Transparency
Providing Value
Commitment and Teamwork

OUR PRIORITIES

Strong, vibrant communities
Building and maintaining quality infrastructure
Supporting our local economy
Protecting our people and our environment
Leadership and governance
Our organisation



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1 PRESENT

2 APOLOGIES

3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes - Communities Standing Committee Meeting - 23 January 2018



Communities Standing Committee Meeting

Meeting of the Central Highlands Regional Council held
in the **Council Chambers, 65 Egerton Street, Emerald**
on

Tuesday, 23 January 2018
Commenced at 10.15am

COUNCIL MINUTES

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL
COMMUNITIES STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 23 January 2018

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MINUTES – COMMUNITIES STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 10.15AM TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2018 IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EMERALD OFFICE

PRESENT

Councillors

Councillors (Crs) K. Hayes (Mayor), G. Godwin-Smith (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors (Crs) C. Brimblecombe (Chair), M. Daniels, A. McIndoe and G. Sypher

Officers

General Manager Commercial Services M. Webster, Acting General Manager Communities K. Byrne,
Minute Secretary B. Pusey

Observers

Councillors (Crs) G. Nixon, C. Rolfe

APOLOGIES

Nil

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolution:

Cr McIndoe moved and seconded by Cr Godwin-Smith “That a leave of absence be granted for Mayor Hayes for the meeting to be held on 13 February 2018.”

CSC 2018 / 01 / 23 / 001

Carried (6-0)

Attendance

Cr Daniels attended the meeting at 10.17am

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Communities Standing Committee Meeting: 12 December 2017

Resolution:

Cr Godwin-Smith moved and seconded by Cr Sypher “That the minutes of the previous Communities Standing Committee Meeting held on 12 December 2018 be confirmed.”

CSC 2018 / 01 / 23 / 002

Carried (6-0)

Business Arising Out Of Minutes

Nil

Outstanding Meeting Actions

Nil

Review of Upcoming Agenda Items

Nil

PETITIONS (IF ANY)

Nil

MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST, CONFLICT OF INTEREST, PERSONAL GIFTS AND BENEFITS

Nil

Attendance

Manager Community Development S. Poulter attended the meeting at 10.25am
Arts and Cultural Officer K .Newman attended the meeting at 10.25am

COMMUNITIES

Draft Arts and Cultural Policy

Executive summary:

The Central Highlands Regional Council Arts and Cultural Policy is a statement that defines Council's position in delivering programs or activities related to arts and culture within the Central Highlands region. The policy outlines legal requirements, promotes equity and access and advocates for the diverse artistic, cultural and social forms of expression of all people, including those from Indigenous as well as culturally and linguistically diverse communities. The role of the Arts and Cultural Policy is to recognise Council's commitment to the arts, cultural and heritage activities including their contribution to the community's wellbeing, innovation and economy.

Resolution:

Cr Godwin-Smith moved and seconded by Cr Sypher "That Central Highlands Regional Council endorse the proposed Arts and Cultural Policy."

CSC 2018 / 01 / 23 / 003

Carried (6-0)

Attendance

Manager Community Development S. Poulter left the meeting at 10.27am
Arts and Cultural Officer K .Newman left the meeting at 10.27am
Coordinator Ranger Services A. Philippzig-Mann attended the meeting at 10.27am
Senior Ranger J. Bullivant attended the meeting at 10.27am

Capella - Roaming Dog Petition Update

Executive summary:

On 12 December 2017, it was resolved that Central Highlands Regional Council receive the petition lodged by Mr Bob Ware on 5 December 2017 on behalf of Capella residents relating to Roaming and Unattended Dogs.

This report serves to update Council in relation to the matters raised in the petition and responses to same.

Considered by Council.

Attendance

Coordinator Ranger Services A. Philippzig-Mann left the meeting at 10.40am
Senior Ranger J. Bullivant left the meeting at 10.40am

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Departmental Updates

Executive summary:

The following information provides an update on key activities for the Communities Department.

1. Capella Street Numbering
2. Backflow Prevention Testing Contract update
3. Temporary Local Planning Instrument – Renewables
4. Review of current Planning Processes
5. Update on the Regional Economic Development Incentives Policy
6. Queensland Government Uncompleted Lots Program
7. Rural worker accommodation inspections program
8. Retreat Creek weed spraying
9. AVA PetPEP Certificate of Appreciation
10. Dingo Skate Park launch
11. Gallery Training
12. Emerald Gallery Incorporated - Service Level Agreement
13. Community Drought Support Overview for 2017
14. Queensland Mental Health Commissioner visit 8 December 2017
15. Youthinc. Christmas Party
16. Central Highlands Regional Council Youth Strategy and Action Plan
17. Sister City - Student Exchange Group and Chaperones
18. Mayors Visit to Japan

Considered by Council.

Youth Strategy

Resolution:

Cr Sypher moved and seconded by Cr Daniels “That Central Highlands Regional Council move the Youth Strategy Report be presented to a future General Council Meeting.”

CSC 2018 / 01 / 23 / 004

Carried (6-0)

GENERAL BUSINESS

(Verbal matters raised by Councillors either as a question, acknowledgement and or additional follow-up by officers)

Nil

CLOSED SESSION

Into Closed Session

Resolution:

Cr McIndoe moved and seconded by Cr Godwin-Smith “That Council close its meeting to the public in accordance with Section 275 (1) (h) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and that only Council staff involved in the closed discussions remain in the room.”

CSC 2018 / 01 / 23 / 005

Carried (6-0)

The meeting was closed at 10.51am

Attendance

Councillor C. Rolfe left the meeting at 11.03am
Minute Secretary B. Pusey left the meeting at 11.03am

Out of Closed Session

Resolution:

Cr Godwin-Smith moved and seconded by Cr McIndoe “That the meeting now be re-opened to the public.”

CSC 2018 / 01 / 23 / 006

Carried (6-0)

The meeting was opened at 11.08am

Attendance

Councillor C. Rolfe attended the meeting at 11.08am
Minute Secretary B. Pusey attended the meeting at 11.08am

Bobtrac Pty Ltd - Asset Purchase

Executive summary:

The Emerald Aquatic Centre, through Bobtrac Pty LTD (Council’s lessee), have invested funds towards infrastructure improvements to enhance the attractiveness of the Emerald Aquatic Centre including, but not limited to:

- Jumping pillow
- Shade structures
- Barbeque equipment

The Central Highlands Regional Council has been approached by Bobtrac Pty Ltd to provide cash restitution towards the shade structures and barbeque equipment totalling \$50,000.

Resolution:

Cr Sypher moved and seconded by Cr McIndoe “That Central Highlands Regional Council deferred the report and request the General Manager Communities provide a further report to the Communities Standing Committee in regard to Council’s obligations under the lease provisions and infrastructure improvements to the facility.”

CSC 2018 / 01 / 23 / 007

Carried (6-0)

CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 11.13am

CONFIRMED

CHAIR

DATE

5 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

6 REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING MEETING ACTIONS

7 REVIEW OF UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

8 PETITION

8.1 To be tabled (if any)

9 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS / NOTES

10 MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST, CONFLICT OF INTEREST, PERSONAL GIFTS AND BENEFITS

11 COMMUNITIES

11.1 Animal Management Report approx. 10-15 mins

INFORMATION REPORT

Author: Andrew Philippzig-Mann, Coordinator Ranger Services

Authorising Officer: Suzanne Poulter, Acting General Manager Communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this information report is to provide Council with an overview of how Animal Management within the Central Highlands Regional Council Local Government Area (LGA) can be improved throughout 2018, taking into account the requirements of the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* (the Act) and *Local Law No 2 (Animal Management) 2012*. The initiatives outlined within this report are intended to improve both service delivery and compliance outcomes across the region.

REPORT:

The following initiatives are designed to strengthen Central Highlands Regional Council's (CHRC) approach to the management of animals, principally cats and dogs, across the Local Government Area (LGA). The initiatives are targeted at encouraging better animal ownership/management by enhancing compliance with legislative provisions, while allowing for greater community feedback through the change consultation process.

Recommended Initiatives

Initiative One

Draft a Cat Management Strategy Discussion Paper for the management of Domestic & Feral Cats within the CHRC Local Government Area (LGA).

Reason:

Both Domestic and Feral Cats are coming under increased public scrutiny as to their behaviour and the impacts they have in the community and upon the broader environment.

Council opted out of the registration of cats following the passage of the *Agriculture and Forestry Legislation Amendment Act 2013*, however significant resources are devoted to the impounding and welfare of cats within the LGA by Ranger Services.

The *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* (the Act) s6(2)(b) should be considered as the mechanism by which council can again require the registration of cats within the LGA under a Local Law. This will over the long term, encourage responsible cat ownership, as well as offset the costs associated with impounding cats, both domestic and feral, found wandering at large in contravention of Local Law No 2 (Animal Management) 2012.

Feral cats have a well-documented impact on the natural environment. The loss of native animals as a direct result of cats in the wild has been the subject of numerous reports. These impacts cannot be understated. Management strategies should be investigated and where appropriate adopted to moderate the impacts of feral cats on the environment.

Timeframe:

By the end of the third quarter of the 2018 calendar year.

Initiative Two

Revise Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2012 (LL2) and where deficiencies are identified, amend to incorporate more stringent compliance outcomes.

Reason:

Good governance requires the review and amendment of legislation to ensure community expectations are being met.

Timeframe:

Revision ongoing. First report by the end of second quarter of the 2018 calendar year.

Initiative Three

Amend practice and procedure relating to the release of impounded animals (cats & dogs) that are not microchipped at the time of impounding to require the relevant animal to be identified by the implanting of a microchipped prior to release.

Reason:

Where an animal has been impounded and found not to have a microchip implanted, and the owner of the animal seeks return of their animal the current practice is as follows:

The owner attends a local veterinary surgery, pays the relevant implanting fee and obtains a “voucher” indicating same. The voucher is then presented to council at the time of paying impound fees and arranging release of the animal. Ranger Services release the impounded animal to the owner who is obligated to ensure implantation.

This voucher has previously been accepted as a means of expediting the release of impounded animals on the understanding the animal owner advises council of the microchip details once implantation is complete.

This approach does not guarantee compliance with the legislation. Owners have on occasions failed to update council records after implantation has occurred. It is a simple enough matter for an owner to return to the vet surgery, claim to have had a change of mind and seek a refund, in accordance with Australian Consumer legislation, for the previously issued microchip implantation voucher.

Investigations have revealed that some owners, having paid for the voucher and having been reunited with their animal, do not manage the return visit to the vet. Reasons that have been put forward include: *“I forgot about it”, “I didn’t have time”, “I don’t believe in that sort of thing”*

A simple change in Council procedures would ensure both the released animal was microchipped before return to the owner and that council records were updated with microchip details against registered dogs, thereby closing the registration loop and ensuring compliance with the Act. The process would be as follows:

1. Owner makes claim for animal.
2. Owner books vet for microchipping.
3. Owner pays impound fees.
4. Ranger attends microchipping appointment with pet, obtains microchip number.
5. Owner pays vet for microchipping procedure.
6. Ranger completes animal release – Ranger/Customer Services updates relevant council records.

Timeframe:

As soon as possible following implementation consultation with Customer Service staff.

Initiative Four

Review the issuing/operation of excess/multiple animal permit across the LGA with a view to phasing them out.

Reason:

Local Law No 2 (Animal Management) 2012 (LL2) caps the number of animals that may ordinarily be kept at an address located within a Designated Urban Area, to a maximum of two (2) dogs and cats per ordinary residential allotment and to one (1) dog and cat per multi-dwelling allotment. Currently council issues a permit to animal owners to keep excess numbers of animals, where the animal owner within the designated urban area makes application on the appropriate form.

This practice has the potential for every address within the designated urban areas to be issued a permit to keep more than the maximum number of animal permitted under LL2. The keeping of more than two (2) dogs at an address creates a 'pack of dogs'. Council has dog management issues that arise out of dogs being left unattended for extended hours, owing to the type and nature of animal owner employment (e.g. mining etc.). These issues start with bored dogs looking for stimulation, followed by dogs escaping their yards and then having the opportunity to engage in antisocial animal behaviour while wandering at large, in some circumstances culminating in aggressive behaviour towards both other animals and people.

A property inspection is also required to be conducted by Ranger Services to ensure relevant conditions are capable of being met. This inspection process can require multiple visits to an address to confirm conditions have been satisfied.

Both Isaac and Barcaldine Regional Council no longer issue Excess/Multiple Animal Permit for the keeping of additional dogs beyond the number specified by their respective Local Laws.

Timeframe:

As soon as possible following adoption by Council. A moratorium could be placed upon the acceptance of any new multiple animal permit applications, while current permit holders could renew their permit for the life of their currently kept animals following payment of the relevant fee.

Initiative Five

Issue Dog Registration renewals at the end at May 2018 for payment on or before 30 June 2018.

Reason:

In the past Council has waited for the current registration period to expire before issuing Renewal Notices, to allow any increase in registration fees to take effect with increases in Council's Register of Commercial and Cost Recover Fees at the commencement of the new financial year. The Act requires the following to occur in relation to registration renewals:

1. Council to issue a registration renewal notice to the owner of a currently registered dog, at least 14 days prior to the expiry of the current registration.
2. Animal owner to pay the renewal notice before the current registration expires

Advancing the renewal process to June will allow owners a clear month to complete renewals for the 2018/2019 year prior to the expiry of current registrations.

Note: Ranger Services are not currently recommending the adoption of a general dog registration fee increase in the 2018/2019 budget cycle as the proposed 1.8% increase is not warranted.

Timeframe

As set out above following implementation consultation with Customer Services.

Initiative Six

Conduct an Inspection/Review of addresses across the LGA where records indicate that dog registrations for the 2016/2017 period were not renewed for the 2017/2018 registration period.

Reason:

This can be viewed as a mini audit of registrations prior to the expiry of current registration. This process will better identify where dog registrations have not been renewed in accordance with the legislation. This type of audit has not previously been conducted by Ranger Services, however it will assist identify animals in the LGA that have expired registrations prior to commencing Initiative Seven.

Timeframe

By the end of second quarter 2018 calendar year.

Initiative Seven

Secure council’s commitment to conducting an Authorised Inspection program in accordance with the Act (s113) across the entire Local Government Area after 31 July 2018.

Reason:

Council is obligated to ensure compliance with the registration provisions of the Act (s56). Conducting an Authorised Inspection program coupled with an appropriate media marketing campaign will improve Dog Registration compliance across the LGA.

Timeframe

2018/2019 Budget submission period.

Initiative Eight

Regulated Dog Fees and Charges in 2018/2019 Budget be amended to as follows:

Item	Current	Proposed
General Registration for Residential Dog	\$100.00	\$100.00
Declared Menacing Dog Registration	\$300.00	\$600.00*
Declared Dangerous Dog Registration	\$615.00	\$600.00*
Declared Restricted Dog Registration	\$615.00	\$600.00*

* Where an owner seeks to register a dog that has been regulated in accordance with the Act (Chapter 4) a single Regulated Dog Permit Keeping Fee of \$600.00 would apply. Total costs for keeping a regulated dog in the LGA would be \$700.00 (\$100.00 General Registration + Regulated Dog Permit Keeping Fee \$600.00)

Reason:

There is no distinction in the Act for how an animal comes to be regulated in terms of Menacing or Dangerous Declaration. Both require the same investigative process to occur and a dog will ordinarily be declared menacing where the evidence does not meet the required standard for a dog being declared as dangerous, that where there is no evidence of serious bodily harm resulting from the attack.

The Regulated Dog Permit Keeping Fee will offset the cost to Ranger Services of the yearly enclosure inspections that flow from the making of a Regulated Dog Declaration. Additionally, the charge is used to offset supply costs for the identification signage that is required to be displayed on the property where the regulated dog resides, along with the special collar tag the dog must wear. Council supply the appropriate signage and collar tag at no additional cost to the animal owner following the issuing of a declaration.

Timeframe

2018/2019 Budget submission period.

Initiative Nine

Review Working Dog Registration Exemptions for working dogs residing in Declared Urban Areas. This matter pertains to both the location at which the dog is kept as well as the purpose for which the dog is used.

Reason:

Currently council does not require working dogs to be registered where the animal owner seeks an exemption for a working dog. No registration fee is charged in this instance as the Act at s44(4)(b) provides a defence against being prosecuted for failing to register a working dog.

However, Schedule 2 of the Act defines working dogs in the following way:

working dog –

- (a) means a dog usually kept or proposed to be kept—
 - (i) on rural land; and
 - (ii) by an owner who is a primary producer, or a person engaged or employed by a primary producer; and
 - (iii) primarily for the purpose of —
 - (A) droving, protecting, tending, or working, stock; or
 - (B) being trained in droving, protecting, tending, or working, stock; and
- (b) does not include a class of dog prescribed under a regulation.

Where a working dog is usually kept or proposed to be kept in a Designated Urban Area it does not meet the registration test set out above. Additionally, there appears to be a misconception in the community that a “hunting dog” meets the test set out above.

Timeframe:

As soon as possible following implementation consultation with Customer Service staff.

Conclusion

Five (5) of the initiatives listed can be commenced within a short period of time with minimal impact on the budgetary outcome. Four (4) initiatives have budgetary impacts and will need to be considered as outcomes in the new financial year. Overall the initiatives are designed to improve responsible animal ownership through increased compliance with legislation across the LGA.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Recommendation Report - Feral and Stray Cats (Author - Jacqueline Hines) **[11.1.1]**

– END OF REPORT –



Recommendation Report

STRAY AND FERAL CATS IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGION

August 2017

Jacqueline Hines

Executive Summary

Feral cats are widespread across Australia, inhabiting 99.8 percent of the land mass, with a population of around 6.3 million (See Map in Appendix). There is typically one feral cat for every one to two kilometer square. Feral cats survive by hunting or scavenging; none of their needs are satisfied intentionally by humans. It is estimated that feral cats consume 75 million native animals a night, inclusive of mammals, reptiles, birds and insects. Not only have they contributed to the extinction of many small mammals and ground-nesting birds, feral cats also compete with native birds of prey and quolls for food. Feral cats are known to carry a number of disease-causing agents that can be transmitted to native species, livestock and humans. From the age of one, feral cats can breed in any season.

PROBLEM ANALYSIS

Although the feral cat population originated from those brought to Australia to kill mice and rats, current domestic and stray cats create a continual breeding stock for the feral population. Many cat owners allow their domestic cats to roam free during the day and night. Not only do they contribute to the loss of native species directly, they also contribute to the growing population of feral cats by mating with stray cats. A number of cats are also abandoned or surrendered by their owners and become stray or feral cats. Stray cats may depend on some resources provided by humans but are not technically owned.

The cattery in Emerald has been inundated by surrendered and privately seized cats since the beginning of 2017. Central Queensland (CQ) Pet Rescue have saved as many cats and kittens as possible with the limited number of volunteer carers they have in the region, in addition to the help they receive from other rescue groups outside of the region. After a period of time at the cattery, the cats that are not rescued are euthanised. This task is emotionally straining for Rangers and the vet clinic, as well as being economically straining due to the sheer numbers of animals being euthanised and taken to land fill each week.

Additionally, some community members have advised Council's Rangers that people are destroying stray cats and kittens in a non-humane method such as drowning or using force. Although council does allow the community to destroy stray and feral cats that are caught in personal or council traps, we do not condone non-humane destruction. The community however, is just as overwhelmed by the number of stray and feral cats, leading them to utilise these methods as a convenient and efficient technique for dealing with the issue.

Several complaints have come through the customer request management system to ranger services relating to the volume of feral cats. However, due to the lack of resources and limitations of utilising baits within urban areas at the risk of endangering domestic animals, the only solution that rangers can provide to the

community are traps for hire. The traps can be hired from council for a deposit of \$100. The person hiring the trap can choose to destroy the trapped cat themselves or return the trap and live animal to council for a fee of \$60, which is the cost recovery for euthanasia and disposal. Within the Central Highlands region, there are only eight cat traps available for hire.

Although the local law dictates that rangers can impound wandering cats and warn or fine cat owners for this offence, ranger services does not currently have the resources to react to wandering cats. Instead, the team relies on the duty of care of cat owners and prevention through education. Owner duty of care is lacking in the community and more education and enforcement of legislation is required to change owner behavior.

AVAILABLE SOLUTIONS

Compulsory De-sexing

Council has the power to place conditions on the cat owner under the local law to enforce mandatory de-sexing of cats. If de-sexing was enforced, there would be a considerably lower number of cats able to breed in the urban area. This solution is made difficult by there being no register of cats in the region.

When the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* was amended in 2014, Council's had the option to opt out of cat registrations. Against the recommendation of the on ground staff, the Manager of Environment at the time Geoff Atherfold went to Council and a resolution was made that CHRC would not register cats. CHRC is now listed in the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* as one of the shires where cat registration is not required. As such we are unable to enforce cat registration unless the act is amended again. For this to happen, the act would need to go before parliament. However, as per our local laws, cat numbers are still restricted to 1 per unit, and two per normal size house block, unless you hold a current permit. Enforcing this is difficult without registration.

Until then, inspection programs, similar to that used for dog registrations, could be utilised to determine which households own cats and whether they are desexed. Warning and infringements can also be used similar to those for failure to microchip and register.

Desexing animals also reduces the likelihood of them wandering, or attracting stray cats to their property, as well as being beneficial for the animal's health.

A lifetime registration is offered at Sunshine Coast Council and others if the cat is desexed and microchipped. This is a one off payment for cat registration as an incentive for desexing.

Trapping Program

An intensive trapping program in the urban areas could be used to remove stray and feral cats in a humane manner. By collecting data using the Feral Cat Scan app, rangers can target hotspots of cat activity. The Feral Cat Scan app is accessible online using a log on created by the user. Their account can be connected to the council account so that collected data can be shared with the council. The community would send locations of cat sightings to the council via the feral cat scan app, and then assist with setting and monitoring traps. This method would rely on community assistance in a citizen science approach. Traps would need to be set at dusk and checked at dawn or at the earliest possible time before 8am. This could initially be done by the community with ranger assistance, and later transferred to the community, ensuring that they were capable of completing a log of activities.

Rangers could then destroy trapped cats that were identified as feral or stray cats based on physical and behavioural criteria. Destruction of cats would be by euthanasia at a vet clinic or a shot to the head by an authorised ranger at a designated area within a council landfill site.

https://www.feralscan.org.au/feralcatscan/pagecontent.aspx?page=feralcat_damage

Baiting

Baiting cannot be used in the urban areas due to the potential for domestic animals to ingest the toxins. Baiting could however be useful in rural areas between towns. Curiosity baits for cats uses a new humane toxin called para-aminopropiophenone or PaPP, which converts red blood cells to a form that cannot carry oxygen; causing death through oxygen starvation to the brain and other organs, effectively putting the cat to sleep before they die. Based on research, 80 percent of cats that ingest the toxin die over a period of minutes to hours. The best time to bait for feral cats is during winter, when the cats struggle to find food. The Curiosity bait is still in its final assessment stage during its trial before being registered as an agricultural chemical.

Shooting

Shooting cats in the urban area is not allowed due to the safety issues with firing weapons in a residential area. Shooting could be utilised in the rural areas, and could be linked with a bounty on cat tails, similar to that of the dingo scalps that council already receive.

Cat Bounty in rural areas

A cat bounty requires rural land owners and managers to provide physical evidence of destroying a feral cat. For each cat tail or scalp that is brought into a council depot, \$15 remuneration could be proposed if the cat bounty concept was

introduced. This provides a monetary incentive for the control of feral cats in rural areas.

IMPLEMENTATION

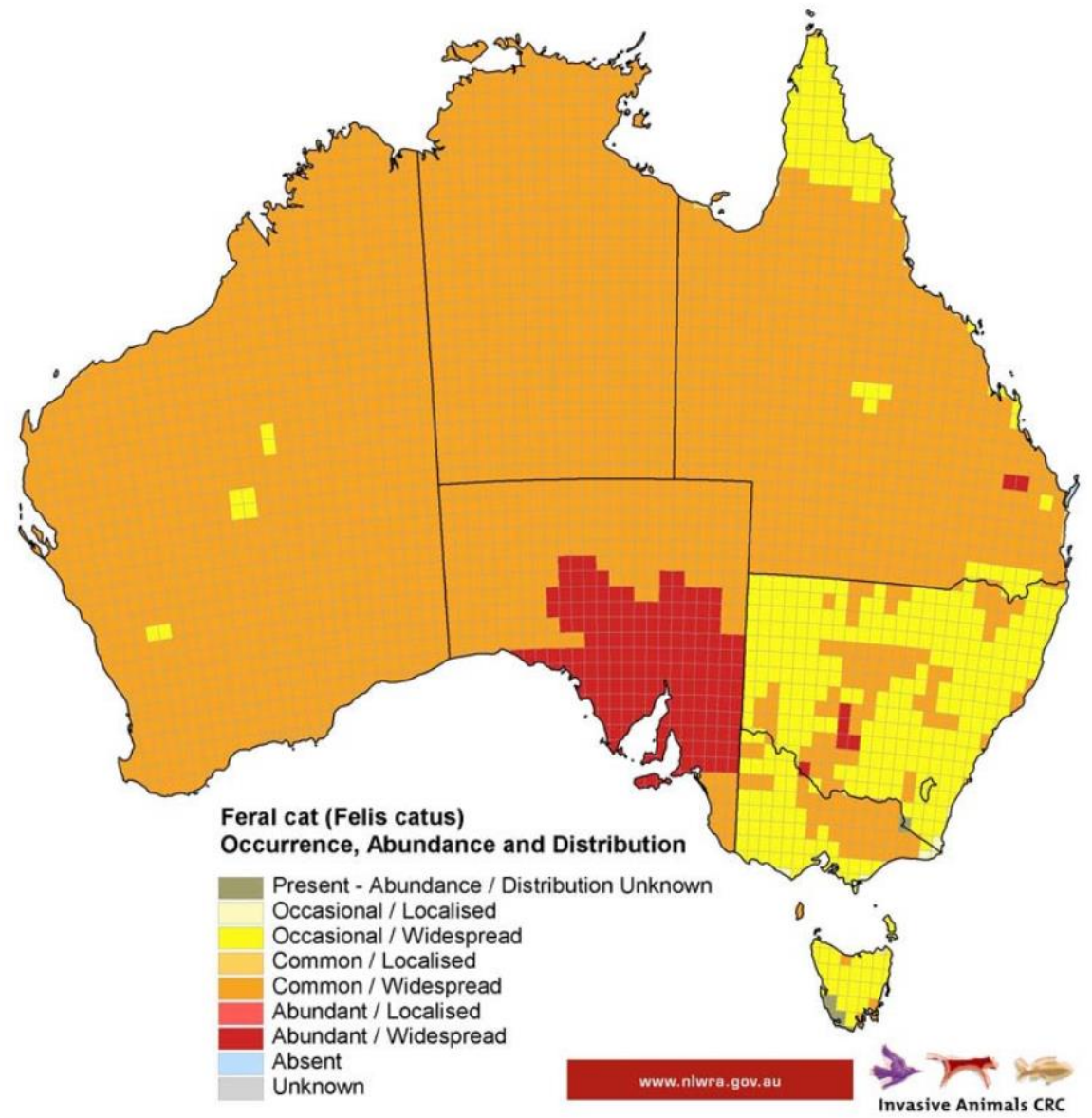
The most efficient method of controlling feral cats in the Central Highlands Region is by using a combination of management techniques together. The trapping program that utilises the community's involvement is crucial for reducing stray and feral cat numbers within the urban area, whilst at the same time a cat bounty would be most effective for control in rural areas.

It will be necessary however, to enforce local laws regarding responsible cat ownership in conjunction with the trapping program, as well as encouraging de-sexing of domestic cats by educating the community. This could be added to our Pets and People Education Program (PEP PET) within our local schools. Pet PEP aims to teach children and the community about responsible pet ownership and safety around animals.

It is proposed that community meetings would be run to firstly share information about the control methods with the community and then seek volunteers for trapping events. Further, these community meetings would be an important opportunity to spread awareness about the impacts of feral cats. Members of the community can then share this with their neighbours and friends in a way that may encourage responsible cat ownership.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Feral cat management is one of the highest priorities for state and federal government, but relies heavily on local level action. The community has voiced their concern regarding feral and stray cats in and around the urban areas. The cost of extra cat traps has been recognised within the Waste Management budget as a method of reducing feral cats at landfill facilities. The overall cost of a trapping program is low in this instance due to the proposed community assistance. The cost of a cat bounty does not outweigh that of the dingo scalp program, and many would consider feral cats to have a greater impact on the environment and community health than wild dogs.



11.2 Update from Nogoia November and the river revival project approx. 5-10 mins

INFORMATION REPORT

Author: Kirstin Byrne, Manager Planning and Environment

Authorising Officer: Suzanne Poulter, Acting General Manager Communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This Information report has been drafted to provide a close out on the activities from the Nogoia November Day initiative hosted by the Central Highlands Regional Council on 25 November 2017 and identifies future opportunities to continue with the river revival project.

REPORT:

After exploring the Nogoia River in late May 2017 and following engagement with Slack Drive riverfront property owners to discuss the Nogoia River and condition of weeds and debris through the river, commitment was made for a scheduled weed control program to be implemented to combat, in the first instance, the Hymenachne outbreak along the river. Hymenachne can grow up to 2.5 m high and has become an unwanted pest of stream banks, wetlands and irrigation ditches across Queensland.

This river weed spraying program commenced in early August 2017 and will be required to be repeated a number of times to make a meaningful impact on the Hymenachne levels within the river. The program is supported by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and SunWater, with areas of the Fairbairn Dam to be targeted as well. This river revival project is a collaborative approach between Council Departments (Infrastructure and Utilities and Communities) and the Community.

Nogoia November

On 25 November 2017, Council hosted the "Nogoia November" day on the riverbank adjacent to the carpark at the Vince Lester Bridge. Nogoia November was held to promote the clean-up of the river and combat overgrown weeds and debris in and along the riverbanks. A range of activities were scheduled including a sausage sizzle hosted by Mayor Kerry Hayes, free kayak hire to explore the river, an Indigenous demonstration, a stall from Council's Ranger Services, water safety demonstrations from SunWater and a hands on display from Hunter Drone Services, a local based drone company who had undertaken some drone surveying of the river. The day was a resounding success with positive feedback received from community members in attendance. While the day was competing with the State election and the Surplus Council Asset auction, attendance by approximately 150 - 180 local residents was recorded. Residents loved the chance to explore the river and hear about the activities planned for the river revival project. There were some great items of feedback received, such as a new floating pontoon down at the concrete ramp and support for more walking trails along the river's edge.

Moving forward - removal of debris:

Following Council hitting a roadblock with the capabilities of the amphibious excavator, the Infrastructure and Utilities team have been reviewing different solutions to remove the debris from the river. They are currently in the process of finalising the detailed risk assessment process for the removal of debris in the river. As this is a unique project and the first of its kind in the region, there are existing risk and safety concerns regarding machinery and the removal process which required approval prior to undertaking any of the works.

Subject to weather conditions, the Infrastructure team are expecting to commence works in the river from week beginning Monday 12 February 2018. The process at this stage, subject to the final sign off from Council's Safety team and environmental compliance, will be for the crews to go in first and clear selective access points into the river, prior to further mechanical removal as required.

The crews are trying to minimise impacts to the Emerald Botanic Gardens during this process and will limit most of the activities, where reasonable to the eastern side of the gardens. However, it is anticipated that access from the western side will be required at times where there is no safe option for the crews on the eastern side.

As previously indicated, the project will be split into three (3) stages. These stages may be subject to change once the works commence as there may be unknown issues identified as the project is undertaken:

- Stage 1 – Vince Lester Bridge to John Gay Bridge
- Stage 2 – John Gay Bridge to the Top Weir
- Stage 3 – Top Weir towards the Fairbarn Dam

Community engagement:

While the community are excited by the project, it is expected that some residents may not be as enthusiastic by some areas being temporarily fenced off within the Emerald Botanic Gardens. To minimise any potential complaints, Council's Communities and Infrastructure and Utilities Department have been liaising with Council's Communications team to publish a media release regarding the planned activities and make a social media post about the purpose of the machinery within the gardens. This will coincide with the commencement date of activities (subject to weather) planned for week beginning Monday 12 February 2018.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

– END OF REPORT –

12 DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

12.1 Departmental Updates

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE REPORT

Author / Authorising Officer:

Suzanne Poulter, Acting General Manager Communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The following information provides an update on key activities for the Communities Department.

❖ Communities

Key Activities Summary

1. Rubyvale facility opening
2. Mobile litter fencing to Lochlees and Blackwater landfills
3. Repair work out at Duaringa Landfill
4. Hydro-mulching completed in across a number of sites
5. Mosquito management
6. Blackwater investigation to unlawful disposal of regulated waste
7. Environmental Authority Compliance Inspections
8. Water testing
9. Decontamination of Emerald Town Hall
10. Emerald Skate Park Update
11. Mobile Skate Park Update
12. Youth Strategy and Action Plan
13. Emerald Community Gardens
14. Library partnerships
15. Library workshops
16. Library renovations
17. Comet tales and walking trails
18. Community nbn™ access network information sessions
19. Community Planning and Advisory Group
20. RADF event marketing and project planning community training
21. 30 Year Anniversary Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery and Art and Photo Competition
22. Council gallery exhibitions
23. Springsure Hospital Museum visit by Dr Melanie Piddoke
24. Springsure Hospital Museum 150 year anniversary
25. Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) - Round 2, 2017-18 update
26. Community Grants Program - Round 1, 2017-2018 update
27. CHACAC planning meeting and community visit to Gemfields
28. Ranger Attendance at Weed Symposium in Port Douglas
29. Trainee Rangers
30. Capella patrols continuing
31. Fines and compliance notices – Capella and Emerald
32. Draft Queensland Biosecurity Strategy 2017 - 2022
33. Service Level Agreement
34. Misuse of water connections in the Gemfields
35. Non-conforming Building Product (NCBP) Audit Taskforce
36. Central Highlands Sports Forum 2018

❖ **Communities**

1. Rubyvale Transfer Station opening

The facility was opened on the 13 December 2017 after some initial delays. Additional minor works have been completed and the site is now fully operational. An invitation was extended to have a Councillor present at the launch of the Rubyvale Facility however this was not able to be accommodated with existing commitments.

2. Mobile litter fencing to Lochlees and Blackwater landfills

Mobile litter fencing has been constructed based on designs from the Rockhampton Regional Council for our Blackwater and Lochlees landfills to reduce windblown litter and maintain environmental compliance.

3. Repair work at Duaringa Landfill

Repair work was completed in Q2 of the 2017/18 financial year to address erosion scarring at the decommissioned Duaringa landfill by Infrastructure Services to cover exposed historic landfill and reduce and channel the flow of storm water on site.

4. Hydro-mulching completed in across a number of sites

Hydro-mulching was completed for Duaringa, Capella and Rubyvale-Sapphire decommissioned landfills to cover exposed soil to reduce impacts for the storm season.

5. Mosquito management

In accordance with Council's Mosquito Management Plan, fogging activities have been undertaken in sections of Emerald after high numbers of mosquitoes were confirmed through Council trapping. Environmental Health Staff continue to visit properties in mosquito complaint areas to conduct inspections and educate residents about mosquito breeding sites around the home. A video educating residents on mosquito management has been placed on Council's website.

6. Blackwater investigation to unlawful disposal of regulated waste:

On 19 September 2017, the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) wrote to Council in relation to a complaint received regarding the unlawful disposal of regulated waste at the Blackwater Landfill. On 3 October 2017, Council supplied DEHP with all waste records for the 2012 calendar year and the 2016 financial year. On 16 January 2018, Council was notified by the Department of Environment and Science that the investigation was finalised and no other further information was required.

7. Environmental Authority Compliance Inspections

Facilities at Blackwater, Bluff, Duaringa, Capella, Tieri, Rubyvale, Bogantungan and Springsure were inspected by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP). Waste services is now awaiting results from EHP to determine any further actions required.

8. Water testing

Groundwater testing at current and former landfills as per Environmental Authority requirements are completed. Blackwater and Lochlees results comply with our environmental reporting requirements under their Environment Evaluation conditions from the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP).

9. Decontamination of Emerald Town Hall

After patrons of the Emerald Town Hall fell ill, and a large number of public health cases presented to hospitals for treatment from the community, the Public Health Unit of Queensland Health contacted Councils' Environmental Health Officers about the potential of other users of the Town Hall contracting an illness. Whilst there has been no definitive answer, Queensland Health believe the most likely agent is a Norovirus that can survive within the environment for up to 10 days or longer if in contact with organic matter and it is highly contagious.

With excellent assistance from Assets and Facilities staff, all surfaces of the hall and its contents were cleaned with a chlorine based solution and in the case of high trafficked areas and toilets, these were cleaned twice. All dishes and cutlery were re-cleaned with the hall available for use from 29 of January 2018.

10. Emerald Skate Park Update

The water fountain installation pending from 2017 is scheduled for completion by 19 February 2018. Lighting and signage will be the next items for review in the skate park renovations.

11. Mobile Skate Park Update

Council has purchased a mobile skate park (mobile fun box) for the Blackwater/ Duaringa area. Mobile skate parks are constructed on a standard trailer with skate ramp additions on its four sides, once the four sides are lowered, the skate ramps are set up. The mobile skate park arrived mid-December 2017 and is currently being registered for Queensland roads. For the mobile skate park to be set up in a community, a concrete slab needs to be in place for it to be installed upon.

The Dingo Community Reference Group flexible funding project involved the installation of a concrete slab in Progress Park, to facilitate installation of the mobile skate park when it visits. Dingo celebrated the completion of their slab on 14 December 2017 and have been selected as the community for the mobile skate park to be unveiled in February 2018.

12. Youth Strategy and Action Plan

Further to the request made by Cr McIndoe at the Communities Standing Committee on 23 January 2018, the Central Highlands Youth Strategy and Action Plan is scheduled to be presented at the General Council meeting on Tuesday 27 February 2018, rather than the Communities Standing Committee.

13. Emerald Community Gardens

The Community Gardens are located behind the Central Highland Regional Council's Emerald library, next to the small park and arts precinct. Their purpose is to provide an opportunity for people in the community to gather together and learn gardening skills. It is open to the general public for free, however, gold coin donations are welcome. The State Government - Department of Communities (formerly State Government - Disability Services) Emerald were the originators of this program.

Established approximately five years ago, the Community Gardens are a successful social inclusion program lead by devoted local volunteer, George Hartfiel. Some achievements of the program include the hosting of an event with television gardening celebrity Costa Georgiadis and in partnership with Anglicare, painting a mural on the side of the library. With the closing of the Emerald Department of Communities office late 2017, the Council's Community Development Unit agreed to carry on overseeing the program.

14. Library partnerships

Lego Mindstorm

The Central Highlands Regional Council library service has implemented a loan system for schools across the region to loan Lego MindStorm kits as part of their robotics program. There is high interest in this loan system from local schools that do not have access to this robotic technology. One of the Library's partners in this initiative at the Emerald State School have offered their technology teacher to provide free coding training to library staff, to support the program, while providing valuable professional development to library staff.

Goodstart Kindergarten

As a result of the partnership and outreach services provided by the Emerald library service over the past four years, the Goodstart kindergarten in Emerald have now organised for their 2018 kindergarten enrolment packs to include information and an offer of membership to the Council's library service. On an additional positive note, the kindergarten invited Kira Nuss from the Emerald library to be a guest presenter at their graduation for the class of 2017, in a ceremony held late January 2018.

15. Library workshops

Family history

Emerald library has developed and trialled a series of family history research workshops that have proven popular with the community. The information delivered during the workshops has been shared to all (nine) 9 branches and is currently being reviewed along with the feedback from customers to further develop the service. Blackwater library will be delivering this series of workshops in May 2018 and have already received great interest from the public.

Tech Savvy Seniors

After the success of the Tech Savvy Seniors workshops delivered in partnership with Telstra, facilitated in Blackwater, Emerald and Springsure branches over 2016-2017, the Library Team is rolling out the program to branches in Capella, Gemfields and Rolleston in 2018. There has been high interest from all communities in this program, with spaces booked out in advance.

16. Library renovations

The Emerald library branch has had new carpets and air-conditioning installed. There has been a great deal of positive community feedback in regards to the work completed. Changes in layout are being planned by staff to create better space flow, more program specific areas and inviting lounge areas; promoting a more comfortable environment for customers to spend additional time in the library to utilise the facility and services.

17. Comet tales and walking trails

Comet Community Reference Group have been working towards completing their project 'Comet Tales and Walking Trails'. The group have developed and designed new signage to showcase significant locations around Comet. The 16 new signs have been received and are being prepared for installation. Many hours of research and preparation have gone into the project by dedicated community members and volunteers. The signage will include Aurasma icons which link viewers of the signs to an augmented reality platform via the Aurasma application on their smartphone. Duaringa Community Reference Group is also working on a similar project.

18. Community nbn™ access network information sessions

The nbn™ local team have scheduled visits to 11 Central Highland communities. They will be delivering information sessions for community members to learn more about the nbn™ and have a live connection via the satellite vehicle "ROAD MUSTA". Their tour around the Central Highlands starts on 27 February 2018 with Duaringa, Dingo, Bluff and Blackwater, then on 28 February 2018 they visit Comet, Gemfields, Capella and Emerald, their visit concludes on 1 March 2018 with Springsure, Rolleston and Bauhinia.

19. Community Planning and Advisory Group

The long standing Chair of Council's Community Planning Advisory Group (CPAG) Cr Paul Bell resigned from this post on 29 January 2017. Advisory Group members and the Community Development Team would like to acknowledge Cr Bell's leadership since the inception of Community Reference Groups in 2012 and ongoing contribution to keeping the terms of reference relevant. The CPAG look forward to continuing to receive his support as an ongoing advisory group member. Nominations for a replacement Chair to this post will be considered at a General Council meeting during March 2018.

20. RADF event marketing and project planning community training

Community training will be conducted as a Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Council Initiated Project (CIP) with Stephen Clark from Art Reach Queensland. Stephen has a wealth of knowledge in the facilitating of arts and community workshop training and support programs.

The training was to be conducted over two days, Friday 9 February and Saturday 10 February 2018 to provide opportunity for Central Highlands residents and community group representatives interested in receiving personal development in these areas. Due to the heavy regional individual and community group support for the "Do It for Dolly" charity rodeo event now being held on Saturday February 10 in Springsure, the date of these workshops has been changed to Friday April 13 and Saturday 14 2018.

The community training days will comprise of a 'Marketing and promoting your project or event' workshop on Friday 13 April 2018 and an 'Event and project planning and management' workshop on Saturday 14 April 2018. Both training days will be held at the Emerald Art Gallery Meeting Room.

21. 30 Year Anniversary Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery and 'Art and Photo Competition'

Entries have been received for the 30 Year Anniversary Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery Art and Photo Competition. The closing date for entries was 25 January 2018. This year's competition and opening night event scheduled for 3 February 2018 is being organised by the Rolleston Painting Group.

Entrants, particularly those entering in the Council's local artist acquisitive prize sections were very appreciative of the fact that the current Bauhinia Bicentennial Collection were on display when they submitted their entries.

22. Council gallery exhibitions

Council Gallery Exhibitions include:

"Welcome to the Lucky Country" Exhibition in the Emerald Art Gallery from 17 November 2017 - 14 January 2018 which closed with a workshop session conducted by the two exhibiting artists Ainslie McMahon and Veronika Zeil. This workshop 'Mindful Drawing' was very well attended by the community with 20 participants in attendance.

"Full Circle" is the current Emerald Art Gallery Exhibition with artwork created by the extremely talented local Gemfields artist Sally Marshall. Sally's exhibition will be in the gallery from 15 January until 16 February 2018. The exhibition's opening night event held on 18 January 2018 was well attended.

The "30 Years Anniversary Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery Art and Photo Competition and Exhibition" will be on display in the Bauhinia Bicentennial Gallery, Eclipse Street, Springsure from 2 February to 22 March 2018.

23. Springsure Hospital Museum visit by Dr Melanie Piddocke

The Central Queensland Museum Officer, Dr Melanie Piddocke visited the Springsure Hospital Museum during the week of 22 - 25 January 2018. During her visit Dr Piddocke compiled an inventory of the collections housed in the Springsure Hospital Museum, according to recommendations outlined in the previously prepared significance assessment undertaken October 2016.

During this visit a 'Heritage Building Cleaning and Collection Care Training' session was undertaken with two local resident cleaners. Training was conducted as part of the ongoing management plan for this National and State Heritage registered building.

The Council's Communications Team also utilised this visit to interview Dr Piddocke and learn more about the rich history of this building and its collections.

24. Springsure Hospital Museum 150 year anniversary

There will be an open day at the Springsure Hospital Museum on Saturday 18 August 2018 to celebrate the 150 anniversary of this historic building. The open day will provide a wonderful opportunity for community to learn about this unique building and its history. An exhibition to showcase the museum's artefacts for this milestone event is being planned.

25. Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) - Round 2, 2017-18 update

The Central Highlands Regional Council Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Program, Round 2, 2017-18 is now open. Applications close 23 February 2018. Application forms and guidelines can be found on the Council website.

26. Community Grants Program - Round 1, 2017-2018 update

The Central Highlands Regional Council Community Grants Program, Round 1, 2018-2018 is now open. Applications close 28 February 2018. Application forms and guidelines can be found on the Council website.

27. CHACAC planning meeting and community visit to Gemfields

The Central Highlands Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (CHACAC) will be visiting the Gemfields for their next planning meeting scheduled for 23 February 2018 at the Sapphire Hall. A Community invitation to meet the CHACAC and contribute to conversations about arts, culture and heritage will be incorporated into this visit and advertised locally prior to the event. While in the area, the CHACAC will also visit some of the significant Gemfields Arts, Cultural and Heritage locations.

28. Ranger Attendance at Weed Symposium in Port Douglas

Two Rangers attended the 14th Weeds Symposium in Port Douglas in early December. The theme of this year's symposium was "*Our place. People, priorities and practice in weed management*". The two Rangers took a lot away from the Symposium and have shared their learnings with the Ranger Services Team.

29. Trainee Rangers

The (two) 2 Ranger Trainees who commenced in January and February 2017 respectively continue to work towards the completion their traineeships, despite some challenges having arisen in their programs. These matters have been resolved by our dedicated Organisational Development Team with the training providers.

30. Capella patrols continuing

During January Ranger Services has continued patrols in Capella in response to Capella Roaming Dog petition received in December 2017. Additionally in response to an animal attack in Capella a resident surrendered her two dogs to Ranger Services.

31. Fines and compliance notices – Capella and Emerald

Proposals for Regulated Dogs were issued in a number of circumstances where the available evidence supported these outcomes. Instances have arisen in both Emerald and Capella where evidence has not been forthcoming capable of supporting such declarations. Fines and compliance notices continue to be issued where appropriate evidence supports these outcomes.

32. Draft Queensland Biosecurity Strategy 2017 - 2022

The Queensland Government, more than 32 peak industry organisations and members of the community have worked together to produce the Draft Queensland Biosecurity Strategy: Our Next Five Years (2017-2022) (the draft Strategy). Biosecurity have engaged in a planning process and have released a draft Strategy identifying six key themes that underpin their vision for the system over the next five (5) years:

Theme 1: Collaborative governance and leadership

This theme is about finding the leaders in our biosecurity system. They are the mentors and the stewards that define and hold us accountable for common, strategic priorities across the system. They understand the value of networks and can work in collaborative models.

Theme 2: Every Queenslanders plays their part

Getting people involved and changing their points of view about their role in managing biosecurity risk. This theme is about the science of behaviour change and bringing biosecurity into the mainstream.

Theme 3: Empowered to Act

We will look at the broader environment that needs to be in place to help people and organisations change and take up leadership roles. This theme incorporates ideas such as training, skills development, incentive programs and industry liaison roles.

Theme 4: Bright ideas and better ways

Innovation is one of the key ways that we can manage risk in the future. Our partners viewed innovation as more than just drones and robots and want to see innovation rolled out in our operational, technical, and business capability areas.

Theme 5: Valuing and building on our investments

Twin ideas of doing more with existing resources and our future resource base, achieved by demonstrating to the community the value of managing all areas of biosecurity risk.

Theme 6: Better intelligence systems

Managing risk means smarter decision-making about how we prepare for, manage, and respond to biosecurity incursions. Better tools, systems and decision-making methodologies are the focus of theme 6.

What's in it for Council?

As a partner within the Biosecurity system Council will be able, on a voluntary basis, commit to the values and to take up leadership and planning roles that will facilitate change. Action plans will be co-developed by parties to the plan that outline real actions that deliver on plan goals through monitor and feedback loops.

A copy of the Draft Strategy can be viewed by clicking the link below:

<https://publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/draft-queensland-biosecurity-strategy/resource/bf6bad30-5f14-4ac6-a870-18b527842c6b>

33. Service Level Agreement

A Service Level Agreement has been drafted to facilitate referral of development applications to internal Council departments. Referrals are carried out to ensure all affected parties are given information on all development applications, and provided the opportunity, within statutory timeframes, to have input into the development process through information requests and conditions for approval or reasons for refusal.

34. Misuse of water connections in the Gemfields

There are renewed efforts between Central Highland Regional Council Plumbing/Compliance staff and Department Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME) officers to resolve the current issues with misuse of water connections in the Gemfields area. Ongoing discussions and future field work will be required to correct the issue, along with DNRME's Gemfields Project which is expected to correct terminology and enable clearer direction to process.

35. Non-conforming Building Product (NCBP) Audit Taskforce

Central Highlands Regional Council are still involved with the Non-conforming Building Product (NCBP) Audit Taskforce which meet via teleconference on a fortnightly basis with other Council's in Queensland. The Palaszczuk Government has established an Audit Taskforce to conduct a targeted audit with a primary focus on buildings constructed between 1994 to 2004 using aluminium composite cladding, after a potentially non-conforming cladding product was found on the Princess Alexandra Hospital at Buranda.

Non-conforming building products and materials are those that present a safety risk and do not meet the required standards for the use in which they are intended. This is a nation-wide issue that not only affects everyone in the building and construction industry, but all community members who live, work, study and play in the built environment around us.

A non-conforming building product is a building product that:

- Is not, or will not be safe; or
- Does not, or will not, comply with the relevant regulatory provisions; or
- The product does not perform, or is not capable of performing, for the use to the standard it is represented to perform by or for a person in the chain of responsibility for the product.

The Hon. Terry Mackenroth, Independent Chair of the Non-Conforming Building Products Audit Taskforce provided Council's with a formal request for Council on information on potentially 'in scope' buildings. Overall, it is anticipated that the risk associated with non-complying building materials would be considered low within the Central Highlands Region.

36. Central Highlands Sports Forum 2018

The Central Highlands Sports Forum 2018 is an annual event that offers excellent speakers delivering workshops to build capacity of our hard working volunteers and thriving athletes. Some of the workshops that will be offered this year include facility management, sports strapping and a new exciting topic “The Power of Positive Doing” that will be delivered by world renowned Sports Psychologist Dr Phil Jauncey. Dr Jauncey has just returned from a trip to Zimbabwe and is also Council’s special guest at the second Sports Awards Dinner being hosted to recognise and reward the Central Highlands community for the high standard of achievements in sport throughout the 2017 year. These workshops are the result of the strong partnership between Queensland Government (Sport and Recreation services) and Council which have enabled this event to be a success and continue to grow each year. Council invites all volunteers involved in sport, recreation or a community service groups to become involved.

– END OF REPORT –

13 GENERAL BUSINESS

14 CLOSED SESSION

14.1 Nil Reports

15 CLOSURE OF MEETING