



Coffs Harbour City Council

30 July 2013

ORDINARY MEETING

The above meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Administration Building, corner Coff and Castle Streets, Coffs Harbour, on:

THURSDAY 8 AUGUST 2013

The meeting commences at **5.00pm** and your attendance is requested.

AGENDA

1. Opening of Ordinary Meeting
2. Acknowledgment of Country
3. Disclosure of Interest
4. Apologies
5. Public Addresses / Public Forum
6. Mayoral Minute
7. Mayoral Actions under Delegated Authority
8. [Confirmation of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting – 25 July 2013](#)
9. [Notices of Motion](#)
10. General Manager's Reports
11. Consideration of Officers' Reports
12. Requests for Leave of Absence
13. Matters of an Urgent Nature
14. Questions On Notice
15. Consideration of Confidential Items (if any)
16. Close of Ordinary Meeting.

Steve McGrath
General Manager



COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
COFF AND CASTLE STREETS, COFFS HARBOUR
8 AUGUST 2013

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ITEM DESCRIPTION

CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT

The following item either in whole or in part may be considered in Closed Meeting for the reasons stated:

CS13/42 CONTRACT NO. RFT-600-TO: CASTLE STREET CAR PARK SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF LIFTS

A portion of this report is confidential for the reason of Section 10A (2):

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

and in accordance with Section 10A (1) the meeting may be closed to the public.



COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

25 JULY 2013

Present: Councillors D Knight (Mayor), J Arkan, N Cowling, R Degens, G Innes, B Palmer, K Rhoades, M Sultana and S Townley.

Staff: General Manager, Acting Director Corporate Business, Director of City Services, Director Land Use, Health & Development and Executive Assistant.

The meeting commenced at 5.00pm with the Mayor, Cr D Knight in the chair.

We respectfully acknowledge the Gumbayngirr Country and the Gumbayngirr Aboriginal peoples who are traditional custodians of the land on which we meet and their Elders both past and present.

The Mayor reminded the Chamber that the meeting was to be recorded, and that no other recordings of the meeting would be permitted.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

The General Manager/Mayor read the following disclosures of interest to inform the meeting:

Councillor	Item	Type of Interest
Cr Palmer	CS13/39 - Traffic Committee Report No. 3/2013	Pecuniary interest.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

Time	Speaker	Item
5.00pm	Grenville Duce and Peter Wardman	NOM13/8 - Amend the Rural Residential Strategy

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- 172 **RESOLVED** (Sultana/Degens) that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 11 July 2013 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

NOTICES OF MOTION

NOM13/8 AMEND THE RURAL RESIDENTIAL STRATEGY

MOTION

- 173 **RESOLVED** (Arkan/Townley) that Council forward allocate the sum of \$150,000 from the 2014/15 budget for the purpose of a Local Environment Study for the West Sapphire, West Kororo and Moonee areas.

AMENDMENT

MOVED (Rhoades/Innes) that Council consider the allocation of funds from the 2014/15 budget for the purpose of a Local Environment Study for the West Sapphire, West Kororo and Moonee areas.

The **AMENDMENT** on being put to the meeting was **LOST**.

DIVISION

A division was duly called for, and those members voting for and against the motion were recorded:

FOR

Cr Rhoades
Cr Palmer
Cr Knight
Cr Innes

AGAINST

Cr Cowling
Cr Sultana
Cr Arkan
Cr Townley
Cr Degens

NOM13/8 - Amend the Rural Residential Strategy (Cont'd)

The **MOTION** on being put to the meeting was **CARRIED**.

DIVISION

A division was duly called for, and those members voting for and against the motion were recorded:

FOR

Cr Cowling
Cr Sultana
Cr Arkan
Cr Townley
Cr Degens
Cr Palmer

AGAINST

Cr Rhoades
Cr Knight
Cr Innes

NOM13/9 SMOKING EXCLUSION ZONES AROUND CAFES IN THE CITY CENTRE

- 174** **RESOLVED** (Townley/Arkan) that CHCC implement a non smoking policy applying to outdoor eating areas in the CBD. An outdoor eating area is each eating area defined by an Outdoor Eating Licence as issued under the Roads Act 1993. The CBD is defined as that area described in CHCC's CBD Masterplan.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

GM13/20 MIDROC STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2017 AND CORPORATION STATUS

This report provides Council with an update on the organisational status of the Mid North Coast Regional Organisation of Council's (MIDROC) and also provides a copy of the Inaugural Strategic Plan as adopted at the MIDROC Board meeting held on 24 May 2013.

MOTION

MOVED (Cowling/Arkan):

1. The Strategic Plan 2013-2017 for the Mid North Coast Regional Organisation of Council's (MIDROC) be noted;
2. The Mayor and General Manager provide periodic reports on outcomes achieved in respect of the MIDROC Strategic Plan;
3. That a report be brought back to Council before the next scheduled meeting of MIDROC a cost benefit analysis as to the previous 14 years achievements in relation to the \$140,000 membership fees paid to date over the 14 years before the decision is made on the corporation decision.

AMENDMENT

175 RESOLVED (Rhoades/Palmer) that

1. The Strategic Plan 2013-2017 for the Mid North Coast Regional Organisation of Council's (MIDROC) be noted;
2. The Mayor and General Manager provide periodic reports on outcomes achieved in respect of the MIDROC Strategic Plan;
3. The formation of a corporation or several corporations to provide regional based advocacy and services on behalf of the Coffs Harbour City Council as part of the Mid North Coast Region be endorsed.
4. That a regular report come back to Council.

The **AMENDMENT** on being put to the meeting was **CARRIED**. The **AMENDMENT** became the **MOTION** and was declared **CARRIED**.

CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CS13/39 TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 3/2013

To confirm the Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 10 July 2013 noting that item T.36 be excluded.

176 RESOLVED (Rhoades/Arkan):

T.34 - Woolgoolga Community Triathlon, Fun Run and Tough Kids Beach Challenge 28-29 September 2013 [3375249]

That the following temporary road closure of Beach Street, Woolgoolga, between Bultitude Street and Pollack Esplanade from 5:30am and 12 noon on Sunday, 29 September 2013, to conduct the Woolgoolga Community Triathlon, Fun Run and Tough Kids Beach Challenge.

The road closure will be advertised and providing no substantive objections are received, the closure be approved subject to the following:

1. The organisers of the Woolgoolga Community Triathlon liaise with affected traders and obtain traders approval.
2. The organisers be responsible for erection of traffic barriers and control of traffic using accredited traffic controllers.
3. The organisers be responsible for all costs associated with the temporary closure, including advertising.
4. Copy of current Public Liability Insurance be submitted.
5. Traffic Management Plan and RMS accredited Traffic Control Plan to be submitted for approval

T.35 - Childcare Centre Traffic Issues at "Drop Off" Zone – 96 Thompson Road, Coffs Harbour ([3391566] R.500530)

That no action be taken for a "No Stopping" zone to be installed west of the ABC childcare centre driveway in Thompsons Road, Coffs Harbour.

T.37 - Signage – St Andrews Drive/Bark Hut Road Woolgoolga ([3393780] R.507930, R.508520)

That approval be given for the installation of a "Give Way" sign, Give Way (TB line) and Double Barrier Lines at the intersection of St Andrews Drive/Bark Hut Road, Woolgoolga as per plan, T.37-2013.

CS13/39 - Traffic Committee Report No. 3/2013 (Cont'd)

T.38 - Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour and First Avenue, Sawtell - Temporary Road Closure - Buskers Festival ([3428851]R.501520)

That approval be given for the following temporary road closures to conduct the Coffs Harbour International Buskers & Comedy Festival.

- Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour between Gordon Street and Grafton Street from 6:00 am and 5.00pm on Wednesday, 25 September 2013.
- First Avenue between Boronia Street and Second Avenue, Sawtell on Thursday 24 September 2013 between 4.00pm and 9.00pm.

The road closures will be advertised and providing no substantive objections are received, the closure be approved subject to the following:

1. The organisers of the Buskers Festival liaise with affected traders and obtain traders approval.
2. The organisers be responsible for erection of traffic barriers and control of traffic using accredited traffic controllers.
3. The organisers be responsible for all costs associated with the temporary closure, including advertising.
4. Copy of current Public Liability Insurance be submitted.
5. Traffic Management Plan and RMS accredited Traffic Control Plan to be submitted for approval.
6. Organisers install a temporary bus zone in First Avenue Sawtell following consultation with Sawtell Coaches and Coffs Harbour City Council.

T.39 - 2013 Sawtell Summer Sessions Road Closures.- First Avenue Sawtell ([3428851]R.501520)

That approval be given for the following temporary road closure of First Avenue between Boronia Street and Second Avenue Sawtell between 4.00pm and 9.00pm to conduct the Sawtell Summer Sessions for markets and entertainment on the following Thursdays:

10th October 2013
14th November 2013
12th December 2013
9th January 2014
13th February 2014
13th March 2014

CS13/39 - Traffic Committee Report No. 3/2013 (Cont'd)

The road closures will be advertised and providing no substantive objections are received, the closure be approved subject to the following:

1. The organisers of the markets liaise with affected traders and obtain traders approval including the local bus company.
2. The organisers be responsible for erection of traffic barriers and control of traffic using accredited traffic controllers.
3. The organisers be responsible for all costs associated with the temporary closure, including advertising.
4. Copy of current Public Liability Insurance be submitted.
5. Traffic Management Plan and RMS accredited Traffic Control Plan to be submitted for approval
6. A temporary bus zone be installed in First Avenue north of Second Avenue as alternative to the Ex-Services Club bus zone.

T.40 - Coffs Coast Country Music Muster 1 -7 October 2013 - Coffs Harbour Show Ground, 123 Pacific Highway, Coffs Harbour [3449492]

That approval be given for the following to conduct the Coffs Coast Country Music Muster 1 -7 October 2013 - Coffs Harbour Show Ground 123 Pacific Highway Coffs Harbour:

1. The organisers and officials complying to conditions imposed by the Road and Maritime Services and Police, and take all reasonable measures to reduce obstruction to traffic during the course of the event.
2. The provisions of the Australian Road Rules and relevant legislation being observed.
3. Sufficient qualified marshals be made available to properly control the event.
4. That all residents and affected businesses be notified of the event.

T.41 -Coffs Harbour Triathlon Club – Triathlon Season 2013/2014 Events [3451953]

That approval be given for the use of Marina Drive, Harbour Drive, Hogbin Drive, Arthur Street, and Orlando Street, Coffs Harbour, on Sundays every two weeks from 6:45am – 9:30am from 8 September 2013 to 27 April 2014 to conduct the Coffs Harbour Triathlon Club events for the 2013/14 triathlon season.

1. The organisers and officials complying to conditions imposed by the Road and Maritime Services and Police, and take all reasonable measures to reduce obstruction to traffic during the course of the event.
2. The provisions of the Australian Road Rules and relevant legislation being observed.
3. Sufficient qualified marshals be made available to properly control the event.
4. That all residents and affected businesses be notified of the event.

CS13/39 - Traffic Committee Report No. 3/2013 (Cont'd)

T.42 – BCU Coffs Tri 1 and 2 March 2014 - Traffic Management (IR 3384999)

That approval be given for the following to conduct the Village Sports Second Annual 'BCU Coffs Tri' on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd March 2014.

On Saturday 1st March

1. Jordan Esplanade 7.00am to 6.00pm.
2. Harbour Drive Marina Drive to Salamander Street 1.15pm to 3.30pm.
3. Hogbin Drive, Harbour Drive to Orlando Street 1.15pm to 3.30pm.

Sunday 2nd March

1. Jordan Esplanade 5.00am to 2.00pm.
2. Harbour Drive from Marina Drive to Salamander Street 7.15am to 11.00am.
3. Hogbin Drive from the Rugby Club to Orlando Street 7.15am to 11.00am.

And the road closures be advertised and providing no substantive objections are received, the closures be approved subject to the following:

1. The organisers of the event verify they have liaised with affected traders and obtain traders approval including the local bus companies.
2. The organisers be responsible for erection of traffic barriers and control of traffic using accredited traffic controllers.
3. The organisers be responsible for all costs associated with the temporary closures, including advertising.
4. Copy of current Public Liability Insurance be submitted.
5. Traffic Management Plan and RMS accredited Traffic Control Plans to be submitted for approval.

T.43 - Armidale to Coffs Harbour – Earle Page College Coast Run 8 September 2013 [3363182]

That the following be approved for the use of Council roads to conduct the Annual Earl Page College Fun Run between Armidale and Coffs Harbour, between Friday, 7 September and Saturday 8 September 2013, approval subject to:

1. The organisers and officials complying with conditions imposed by the Road and Maritime Services and Police, and take all reasonable measures to reduce obstruction to traffic during the course of the event.
2. The provisions of the Australian Road Rules and relevant legislation being observed.
3. Sufficient qualified marshals are made available to properly control the event.
4. That all residents and affected businesses be notified of the event.

CS13/39 - Traffic Committee Report No. 3/2013 (Cont'd)

T.44 – Movember Hobart to Cairns Walk – 25 November 2013 [3391965]

That approval be given for the use of Council roads to conduct the Movember Hobart to Brisbane Walk between Lyons Road Sawtell and Diggers Beach Road Coffs Harbour between 6.00am and 10.30am on the 25 November 2013, approval subject to:

1. The organisers and officials complying with conditions imposed by the Police, and take all reasonable measures to reduce obstruction to traffic during the course of the event.
2. The provisions of the Australian Road Rules and relevant legislation being observed.
3. Sufficient qualified marshals are made available to properly control the event.
4. That all residents and affected businesses be notified of the event.

Councillor Palmer declared an interest in the following item, vacated the Chamber and took no part in the discussion or voting, the time 6.12pm.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Mayor requested an appropriate motion to enable the meeting to resolve into Committee of the Whole.

- 177 RESOLVED** (Cowling/Innes) that the Committee now move into Committee of the Whole.

T.36 - NRMA Funding Campaign on 6 August 2013 at Harbour Drive Precinct, Coffs Harbour [3430355]

- 178 RECOMMENDED** (Rhoades/Sultana)

1. That no action be taken in relation to item T.36 of the Traffic Committee report in respect to a road closure of Harbour Drive.
2. That Council offer assistance to secure a place for this demonstration as described in T.36 prior to the date of the event.

OPEN MEETING

The Mayor requested an appropriate motion to enable the meeting to resolve into Open Meeting.

- 179** **RECOMMENDED** (Arkan/Innes) that the Committee now move into Open Meeting and report the findings of the Committee.

Councillor Palmer returned to the Chamber.

- 180** **RESOLVED** (Rhoades/Degens) that the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

CS13/40 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP - EASTERN DORRIGO

To recommend to Council appointment of community members to a facility management committee.

- 181** **RESOLVED** (Arkan/Townley) that the following committee members nominations be appointed to the relevant committee:

- Eastern Dorrigo Showground and Community Hall Management Committee
Ms Leisa Maddern, Ms Linda Cochrane and Mr Kym Fritchley

CS13/41 TENDER RFT-593-TO - COFFS HARBOUR CBD MINOR MAINTENANCE, STREET AND FACILITIES CLEANING

- 182** **RESOLVED** (Palmer/Degens):

1. That Council accept the tender of Coffs Professional Group Pty Limited (ACN. 53 125 563 365) for the Coffs Harbour CBD Minor Maintenance, Street & Facilities Cleaning – Contract No. RFT-593-TO for the lump sum price as tendered for Areas A1, A2 & 3, on the basis that:
 - a) The tender is conforming and is the most advantageous tender following the application of Council's Tender – Value Selection system
 - b) The tenderer has the necessary experience in similar works and his ability and performance are satisfactory.
2. That the contract documents be completed under Seal of Council.

CORPORATE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CB13/46 MONTHLY BUDGET REVIEW FOR MAY 2013

To report on the estimated budget position as at 31 May 2013.

- 183 RESOLVED** (Palmer/Innes) that the budget adjustments be approved and the current budget position be noted.

Estimated Budget Position as at 31 May 2013:

	General Account \$	Water Account \$	Sewer Account \$
Original Budget adopted 24 May 2012	308,365 (D)	4,397,830 (D)	3,542,337 (D)
Approved Variations to 30 April 2013	(283,385) (S)	(554,150) (S)	(686,556) (S)
Recommended variations for May 2013	(26,236) (S)	Nil	Nil
Estimated result as at 31 May 2013	<u>(1,256) (S)</u>	<u>3,843,680 (D)</u>	<u>2,855,781 (D)</u>

LAND USE HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT REPORTS

L13/21 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NO. 393/13 RESIDENTIAL FLAT BUILDING AND DEMOLITION LOT 4, SEC 58, DP 758258, NO. 326 HARBOUR DRIVE, COFFS HARBOUR

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the outcome of negotiations in relation to Council Resolution No. 134 regarding Development Application 393/13 which is an application for demolition of the existing dwelling on site and construction of a residential flat building. The report recommends conditional approval of the development application.

- 184 RESOLVED** (Arkan/Degens) that
1. That Development Application No. 393/13 for demolition and construction of a four unit Residential Flat Building on Lot 4, Sec 58, DP 758258, No. 326 Harbour Drive Coffs Harbour, be approved subject to conditions as appended to the report (Attachment B3).
 2. That persons who made submissions in relation to the Development Application No. 393/13 be notified of the determination.

**L13/21 - DA No. 393/13 Residential Flat Building and Demolition, Lot 4, Sec 58,
DP 758258, No. 326 Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour (Cont'd)**

FOR	AGAINST
Cr Rhoades	Nil
Cr Townley	
Cr Palmer	
Cr Degens	
Cr Knight	
Cr Arkan	
Cr Innes	
Cr Sultana	
Cr Cowling	

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

No requests for leave of absence.

MATTERS OF AN URGENT NATURE

MUN13/5 Potential flooding and inundation of water into residential houses.

Councillor Rhoades advised that there is a large tree in Middle Creek (Chinamans Creek), Sawtell, upstream of the bridge in First Avenue, where it meets Lyons Road. Cr Rhoades advised that debris has now banked up and created a dam, and he is concerned that it will backfill and flood houses in Boronia Street, which has happened before when the creek was clear. Cr Rhoades requests that, regardless of who has responsibility for this, the tree needs to be removed.

MUN13/6 Beach erosion at Woolgoolga Surf Club

Councillor Cowling advised that the beach erosion at Woolgoolga Beach near the Surf Club is very dangerous and needs immediate attention as it is getting very close to the Surf Club. Cr Cowling asked whether Council was across it.

The General Manager advised that staff have been liaising with stakeholders but it is difficult to determine what corrective action is needed.

The Director of City Services advised that staff have been talking with representatives from the Surf Club and Marine Park Authority. The issue is around sand nourishment, being able to take sand from one area and moving it to another. The Director advised that it is a complex issue, but staff are working with various groups to do what we can. An information e-mail will be provided to Councillors tomorrow.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No questions on notice.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 6.41 pm.

Confirmed: 8 August 2013.

.....
Denise Knight
Mayor

FRINGE BENEFITS TAX

Purpose:

Councillor Nan Cowling has given notice of her intention to move:

With the Federal Government announcement that they intend to change the rules on FBT; has the Council considered the ramifications of this on the Council budget and the best course of action available to the Council to offset the loss that this would cause to the budget bottom line. Please supply a report to the meeting of the 22 August 2013 on this issue.

Rationale:

The residents have heard this announcement on the news and many are worried about the effect. Why not be upfront with this information and alleviate the resident's minds that the Council have their best interests at heart and have an offset position.

Staff Comment:

The Federal Government's proposal means that instead of having two methods of calculating FBT in relation to leased motor vehicles, ie, the Statutory Formula and the Operating Cost, there would only be the Operating Cost method. FBT on all of Council's vehicles is currently calculated on the Statutory Formula method.

LGNSW has advised that it is not providing advice to councils, in relation to the proposal until there is certainty in relation to some issues and possibly not until legislation is drafted.

Legislation is likely to be considered some time after the Federal elections. It is not known what the Coalition's approach will be.

The government has proposed that legislation would affect vehicles purchased after 16 July 2013. Until legislation is available, further vehicles will not be replaced. This will avoid an immediate increase in Council's FBT and give local government in Australia and its advisors time to consider options to reduce FBT, should legislation be enacted, and maintain service.

CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT POLICY

Purpose:

For Council to adopt the Contaminated Land Management Policy.

Description of Item:

This policy forms the basis for the management of land contamination within Coffs Harbour City local government area. This policy is made under the "Managing Land Contamination: Planning Guidelines" (Contaminated Land Planning Guidelines), State Environment Planning Policy No.55 - Remediation of Land (SEPP 55) and Environmental Planning & Assessment Act in order to implement a contaminated land management framework within the planning and development process of Coffs Harbour City Council.

The policy will provide a more structured, consistent and transparent approach to Council's regulation and management of contaminated land, and potentially contaminated land, within the local government area (LGA). It will assist contaminated land management within the planning and development processes of Council.

This policy is supported by amendments to the Draft Coffs Harbour Development Control Plan 2013.

At its meeting on 9 May 2013, Council considered a report on a Contaminated Land Management Policy, and resolved:

- 1. In accordance with Section 160 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council gives public notice of its intention to adopt the Contaminated Land Management Policy as attached, placing it on public exhibition for a period of 42 days for submissions to be made to Council.*
- 2. Following the exhibition period, Council considers a further report including a summary of any submissions received.*

This report is the outcome of that resolution.

Sustainability Assessment:

- **Environment**

The policy includes provisions to ensure the remediation of contaminated land is undertaken in an environmentally sustainable manner, minimising risks to the environment.

- **Social**

The policy includes provisions to ensure the remediation of contaminated land is undertaken in a socially responsible manner, minimising risks to human health from both identified contamination and during remedial actions. The appropriate and successful remediation of land contamination provides for the land to be used for 'higher order' land-uses. The policy will engender more transparency to prospective purchasers of land, property owners, developers and the general community.

- **Civic Leadership**

The purpose of Council policies is to ensure transparency and accountability in local government. Their implementation enables Council to identify and respond to community issues and concerns. This is consistent with the *Coffs Harbour 2030* Community Strategic Plan strategy *LC2.2.1: Enable and support all levels of government to serve the local community.*

- **Economic**

Broader Economic Implications

There are no broad economic impacts associated with the implementation of the recommendations.

Delivery Program/Operational Plan Implications

The ongoing development and review of Council policies and plans are accommodated within Council's budget structure. This expenditure is monitored through Council's monthly and quarterly budget reviews.

Consultation:

This policy was publicly exhibited for a period of 42 days, from 22 May 2013 to 3 July 2013. The exhibition of this document was held concurrently with the exhibition of proposed additions and amendments to the draft Development Control Plan 2013. The results of the exhibitions are being reported separately to Council.

No submissions on the draft policy were received during the exhibition period and in accordance with the Council resolution, this report recommends that Council adopt the Contaminated Land Management Policy.

Related Policy and / or Precedents:

The Agricultural Chemical Residues Policy (1994) will be repealed by the adoption of this policy.

Statutory Requirements:

- State Environmental Planning Policy No. 55 – Remediation of Land
- Contaminated Land Management Act (1997)
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979)
- Protection of the Environment Operations Act (1997) and associated regulations
- Local Government Act (1993)

Issues:

Council needs to manage and regulate land contamination in a structured, consistent and transparent manner, in accordance with best practice. This policy is required in order to more comprehensively implement a contaminated land management framework within the planning and development process of Coffs Harbour City Council.


The policy is supported by provisions within the soon to be implemented Development Control Plan 2013 and Council's property information system, including the land contamination dataset noting contaminated and potentially contaminated lands, based on currently available information. This dataset ("LandContamination") will need to be regularly updated and thereby regularly reported to Council as new information is provided to Council.

Implementation Date / Priority:

Implementation is immediate.

Recommendation:

1. That Council adopts the appended Contaminated Land Management Policy.
2. That Council repeals the Agricultural Chemicals Residue Policy (1994).

 <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">Contaminated Land Management Policy</p>	
<p>Policy Statement</p> <p>This policy forms the basis for the management of land contamination within Coffs Harbour City local government area. This policy is made under the "Managing Land Contamination: Planning Guidelines" (Contaminated Land Planning Guidelines), State Environment Planning Policy No.55 - Remediation of Land (SEPP 55) and Environmental Planning & Assessment Act in order to implement a contaminated land management framework within the planning and development process of Coffs Harbour City Council.</p>	
<p>Related Legislation, Circulars or Guidelines (as amended)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local Government Act 1993 and Regulation ▪ Contaminated Land Management Act 1997 (CLM) ▪ Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A) ▪ Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO) ▪ State Environmental Planning Policy No. 55 – Remediation of Land (SEPP 55) 	
<p>Does this Document Replace an Existing Policy, Procedure or Plan? Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural Chemical Residues Policy (1994) 	
<p>Related Council Policy or Procedure</p> <p>Enforcement Policy</p> <p>Liquid Trade Waste Policy</p>	
<p>Application and Distribution</p> <p>It is mandatory for all Council officials to comply with this Policy.</p>	
<p>Distribution:</p> <p>This Policy is available on Council's website under Council Policies.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intranet <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Noticeboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dataworks</p>	
<p>Approved by:</p> <p>Executive Team [Meeting date]</p> <p>Council [Meeting date & Resolution No.]</p>	<p>Signature:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>General Manager</p>
<p>Council Branch Responsible:</p>	<p>Date of Next Review:</p>

As reported to Council 8 August 2013

Attachment 1

Key Responsibilities

<i>Position</i>	<i>Directorate</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
Mayor	Council	To lead Councillors in their understanding of, and compliance with, this Policy and Guidelines.
General Manager	Executive	To lead staff (either directly or through delegated authority) in their understanding of, and compliance with, this Policy and Guidelines. To approve resources to develop, implement and review this Policy and Guidelines.
Executive Manager Strategy & Sustainability	Landuse Health & Development	To communicate, implement and comply with this Policy and related Guidelines. To update and maintain Council's property information system with data associated with the Policy and related Guidelines.
Directors	All Directorates	To communicate, implement and comply with this Policy and related Guidelines.
All Council officials	Council	To comply with this Policy, Guidelines and related procedures.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This policy forms the basis for the management of land contamination and applies to all land in the Coffs Harbour City Council local government area.

This policy is made under the "Managing Land Contamination: Planning Guidelines" (Contaminated Land Planning Guidelines) and State Environment Planning Policy No.55 - Remediation of Land (SEPP 55) in order to implement a contaminated land management framework within the planning and development process of Coffs Harbour City Council. This Policy was developed from the South Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) (1999) "Model Policy on Contaminated Land".

The policy repeals all previous policies of the Council relating to land contamination, including the "Agricultural Chemical Residues Policy" dated 15 June 1994.

1.1 Aims

The aims of this policy are to:

- ensure that the likelihood of land contamination is considered as early as possible in the planning and development process
- ensure that changes in land use will not increase the risk to health or the environment
- avoid inappropriate restrictions on land use arising from contamination
- provide information to support decision making and to inform the community
- ensure that site investigations and remediation works are carried out in a satisfactory manner, and where appropriate, are independently verified by site audits
- ensure that the Council exercises its functions relating to the development of contaminated land with a reasonable standard of care and diligence.

1.2 Assessing the Risk of Contamination

SEPP 55 requires that a consent authority must not consent to the carrying out of any rezoning or development of a site unless it has considered whether the site is contaminated, and if it is contaminated, whether the site is suitable in its contaminated state or whether remediation is necessary for the purposes of the proposed development. The need to consider whether the site is contaminated and whether or not a proposal is suitable with regard to contamination risk is also a requirement under section 79C of the EP&A Act and Council's general environmental obligations under the Local Government Act 1993. In carrying out relevant planning functions Council must consider land contamination as a potential site constraint for proposed developments. Council needs to be satisfied that a site is suitable for its proposed use, or can be made suitable by remediation.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority's (NSW EPA) intervention in relation to contaminated land is triggered when it considers that land contamination is 'significant enough to warrant regulation' by NSW EPA (s.11 Contaminated Land Management Act 1997). Generally, where NSW EPA does not consider land to be significantly contaminated (and hence to not warrant regulation), that land will be dealt with by Coffs Harbour City Council under the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, in accordance with Managing Land Contamination: Planning Guidelines and SEPP 55.

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A Council which acts substantially in accordance with these guidelines when carrying out specific planning functions is taken to have acted in good faith and receives statutory protection under s.145B of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

2. DEFINITIONS

Contaminated land: Land in, on or under which any substance is present at a concentration above the naturally present in, on or under the land and that poses, or is likely to pose, an immediate or long term risk to human health or the environment.

CLM Act: Contaminated Land Management Act 1997.

Contaminated Land Planning Guidelines: Guidelines notified in accordance with section 145C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. (Department of Urban Affairs and Planning & NSW EPA 1998).

Council: Coffs Harbour City Council.

Detailed Site Investigation: An investigation to define the extent and degree of contamination, to assess potential risk posed by contaminants to health and the environment, and to obtain sufficient information for the development of a remedial action plan if required. Reporting requirements for a detailed site investigation are as outlined in NSW EPA (1997) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites*, and refer also to Schedule 3.

DUAP: The former NSW Department of Urban Affairs & Planning (operates now as the NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure).

EP&A Act: The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (as amended)

Initial Evaluation: Council's assessment of readily available factual information to determine whether contamination is a relevant site constraint requiring further investigation prior to the preparation of a Local Environmental Plan, Development Control Plan or Plan of Management for Community Land; or the determination of a development application or Council activity assessed under Part 5 of EP&A Act.

NEPC: National Environment Protection Council (now part of the Environment Protection & Heritage Council (EPHC)).

NEPM: National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure 1999, as prepared by the NEPC (refer above).

NSW EPA: NSW Environment Protection Authority.

Planning Certificate: A certificate issued under section 149 of the EP&A Act providing information about land use zoning and other matters relating to a specific parcel of land. Planning Certificates are of two types:

- a 'basic certificate' contains matters prescribed under s.149(2) [that is matters referred to in Schedule 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 1994 and Section 59(2) of the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997]
- a 'full certificate' containing additional information provided under section 149(5).

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Planning Proposal: A planning proposal is an administrative process, under the current Planning Act, that enables a change to the controls of a Local Environmental Plan (LEP). A planning proposal may include:

- an entirely new LEP; or
- a proposal to amend an existing LEP (including a re-zoning proposal).

Preliminary Site Investigation: An investigation to identify any past or present potentially contaminating activities and to provide a preliminary assessment of site contamination, and if required, provide a basis for a detailed investigation. Reporting requirements for a preliminary investigation as outlined in NSW EPA (1997) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites*, refer also to Schedule 3.

Remedial Action Plan (RAP): A plan which sets out remediation goals and documents the process by which it is proposed to remediate a site. Reporting requirements for a preliminary investigation as outlined in NSW EPA (1997) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites* refer also to Schedule 3.

Remediation: Works carried out for the purposes of removing, dispersing, destroying, reducing, mitigating or containing the contamination of any land; or eliminating or reducing any hazard arising from the contamination of the land (including by preventing the entry of persons or animals on the land).

SEPP 55: State Environmental Planning Policy No.55 – Remediation of Land.

Site Audit: An independent review of any or all of the stages of the site investigation process conducted in accordance with the Contaminated Land Management Act and NSW EPA (2006) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for the NSW Site Auditor Scheme (2nd Edition)*.

Validation: The process of determining whether the objectives for remediation and any conditions of development consent have been achieved. Reporting requirements for a preliminary investigation are as outlined in NSW EPA (1997) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites*, and refer also to Schedule 3.

Virgin Excavated Natural Material (VENM): natural materials (e.g. clay, gravel, sand, soil and rock) that is not mixed with any other waste and which has been excavated or quarried from areas of land that are not contaminated with manufactured chemicals or process residues, as a result of industrial, commercial, mining or agricultural activities and which do not contain sulphidic ores or soils (e.g. acid sulfate soils).

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3. COUNCIL'S DECISION MAKING PROCESS

In determining all planning proposals and development applications, Council must consider the possibility of land contamination and the implications it has for any proposed or permissible future uses of the land. A precautionary approach will be adopted to ensure that any land contamination issues are identified and dealt with early in the planning process.

3.1 Initial Evaluation

Council will conduct an initial evaluation as part of the planning proposal and development assessment process to determine whether contamination is an issue, and whether sufficient information is available for Council to carry out its planning functions in good faith.

The initial evaluation will be based on readily available factual information provided by the applicant and information available to Council such as previous investigations about contamination on the land, previous zoning and uses of the subject land, and restrictions relating to possible contamination such as notices issued by the NSW EPA.

An initial evaluation must be carried out regardless of the nature of the proposed use or any current use. The onus is on the proponent to ensure that the information included in any planning proposal/development application is sufficient to enable Council to make a decision.

A brief checklist for conducting an initial evaluation may include the following:

- Do Council records identify any previous investigation about the land?
- Do Council records identify an activity listed in Schedule 1 as having occurred or having been approved on the subject land?
- Has the subject land ever been zoned for industrial, agricultural or defence purposes?
- Is the subject land currently being used for an activity listed in Schedule 1?
- Do Council records show that the land was or is subject to regulation, through licensing or other mechanism, of an activity listed in Schedule 1?
- Are there any land use restrictions on the subject land relating to possible contamination such as notices issued by the NSW EPA or other regulatory authorities?
- Do Council records identify contamination issues on the land adjacent to the subject land which could affect the subject land?
- Does a site inspection suggest that the site may have been associated with activities listed in Schedule 1?

If, after carrying out an initial evaluation, none of the enquiries suggest that the land might be contaminated or that further enquiry is warranted, the planning process should proceed in the normal way. If, however, there are indications that contamination is, or maybe present and Council has insufficient information on which to make a planning decision (gaps in historical information, insufficient records) then the proponent will be required to conduct further investigations as described below.

3.2 Council Procedures for Planning Proposals Involving a Change of Zone/s

SEPP 55 requires Council to consider contamination issues in planning proposals.

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In the case where Council is the appropriate planning authority, Council will not include land in a zone that would permit a change of use of the land from the existing use unless:

- (a) *council has considered whether the land is contaminated, and*
- (b) *if the land is contaminated, Council is satisfied that the land is suitable in its contaminated state (or will be suitable, after remediation) for all purposes for which land in the zone concerned is permitted to be used, and*
- (c) *if the land requires remediation to be made suitable for any purpose for which land in that zone is permitted to be used, Council is satisfied that the land will be so remediated before the land is used for that purpose.*

Note: In order to satisfy itself as to paragraph (c), the planning authority may need to include certain provisions in the environmental planning instrument.

In accordance with Clause 6(4) of SEPP 55 Council will require a preliminary investigation to be submitted with planning proposals where the land concerned is:

- (a) *land that is within an investigation area,*
- (b) *land on which development for a purpose referred to in Table 1* to the contaminated land planning guidelines is being, or is known to have been, carried out,*
- (c) *to the extent to which it is proposed to carry out development on it for residential, educational, recreational or child care purposes, or for the purposes of a hospital--land:*
 - (i) *in relation to which there is no knowledge (or incomplete knowledge) as to whether development for a purpose referred to in Table 1* to the contaminated land planning guidelines has been carried out, and*
 - (ii) *on which it would have been lawful to carry out such development during any period in respect of which there is no knowledge (or incomplete knowledge).*

Note: Table 1 in the Managing Land Contamination Planning Guidelines 1998, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning & NSW Environment Protection Authority which is reproduced as Schedule 1.*

In addition to the requirements set out in SEPP 55, Council will also require a preliminary investigation to be submitted if Council has reasonable grounds to believe the land may be contaminated. Where the land has been used for banana growing Council will require a preliminary investigation (referred to as an Initial Site Investigation in s.2 NSW EPA Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites, 1997) to be submitted with planning proposals (rezoning applications) in accordance with Schedule 2. Council's procedure for considering land contamination issues for planning proposals is shown in Figure 1.

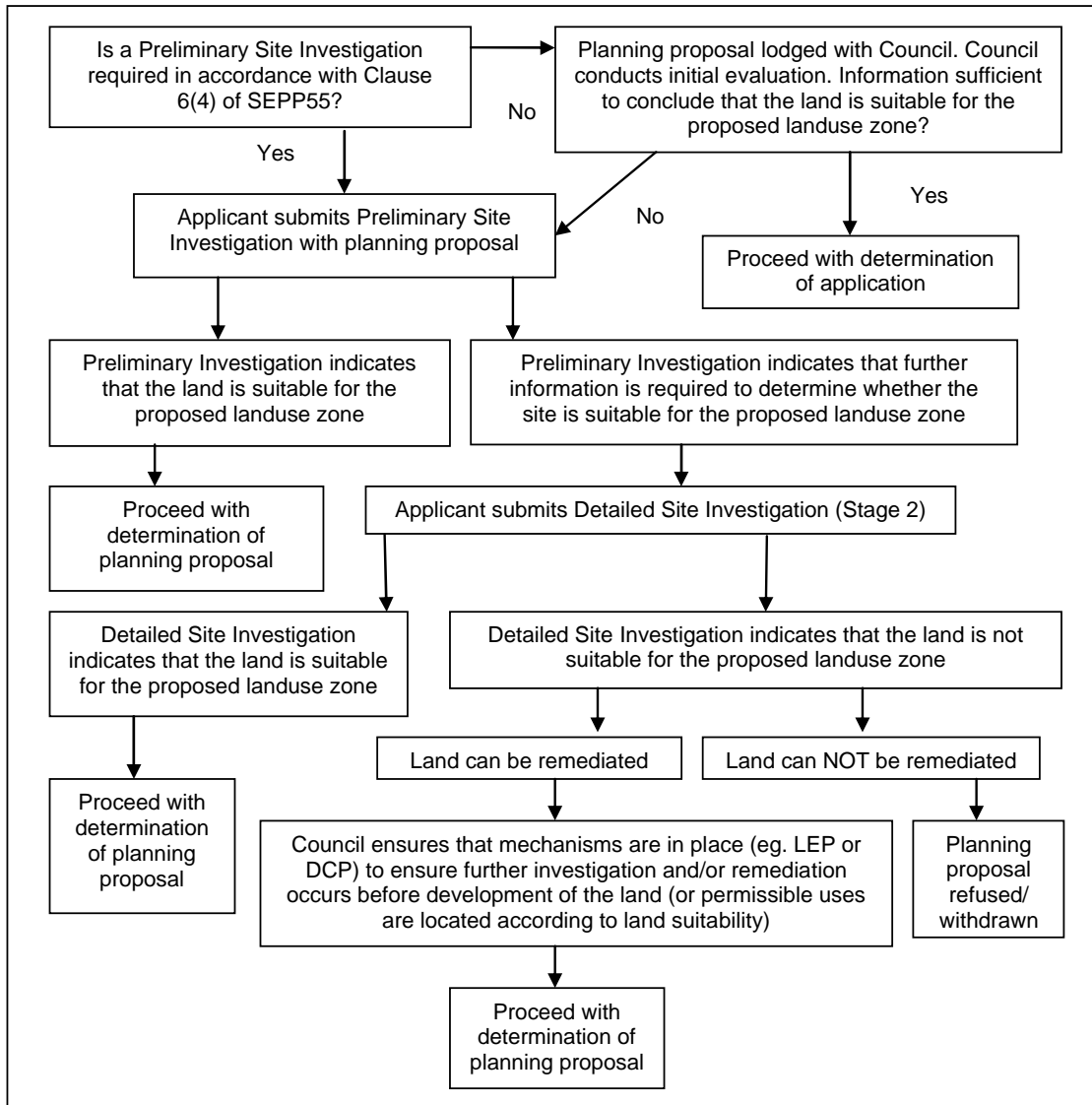
3.2.1 Development Applications

When Council receives a site specific development application where a specific development or land use associated with the proposal is known, Council may also require a detailed site investigation to be undertaken prior to Council determining the development proposal.

3.2.2 Release Area Planning Proposals

When Council receives a planning proposal involving a change of zone/s that covers more than one property, or Council itself proposes "Release Area rezoning", it may be difficult for Council to be satisfied that every part of the land is suitable for the permissible use(s) at the rezoning stage. In these circumstances Council may consider the findings of the preliminary investigation, and may include provisions in an LEP or DCP to ensure that the potential for contamination and the suitability of the land for any proposed use is further addressed prior to the redevelopment of the land.

FIGURE 1: COUNCIL PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING LAND CONTAMINATION ISSUES FOR PLANNING PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS



NB: Council may require a site audit by an EPA accredited site auditor at any stage of the site investigation process.

3.3 Council Procedures for Development Applications

Section 79C(1) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 requires Council to consider "...the suitability of the site for the development" when assessing development applications. The risk from contamination to health and the environment is included in this assessment.

In accordance with clause 7 of SEPP 55, in the case where Council is the appropriate planning authority, Council will not consent to the carrying out of any development on land unless:

- (a) it has considered whether the land is contaminated, and
- (b) if the land is contaminated, Council is satisfied that the land is suitable in its contaminated state (or will be suitable, after remediation) for the purpose for which the development is proposed to be carried out, and

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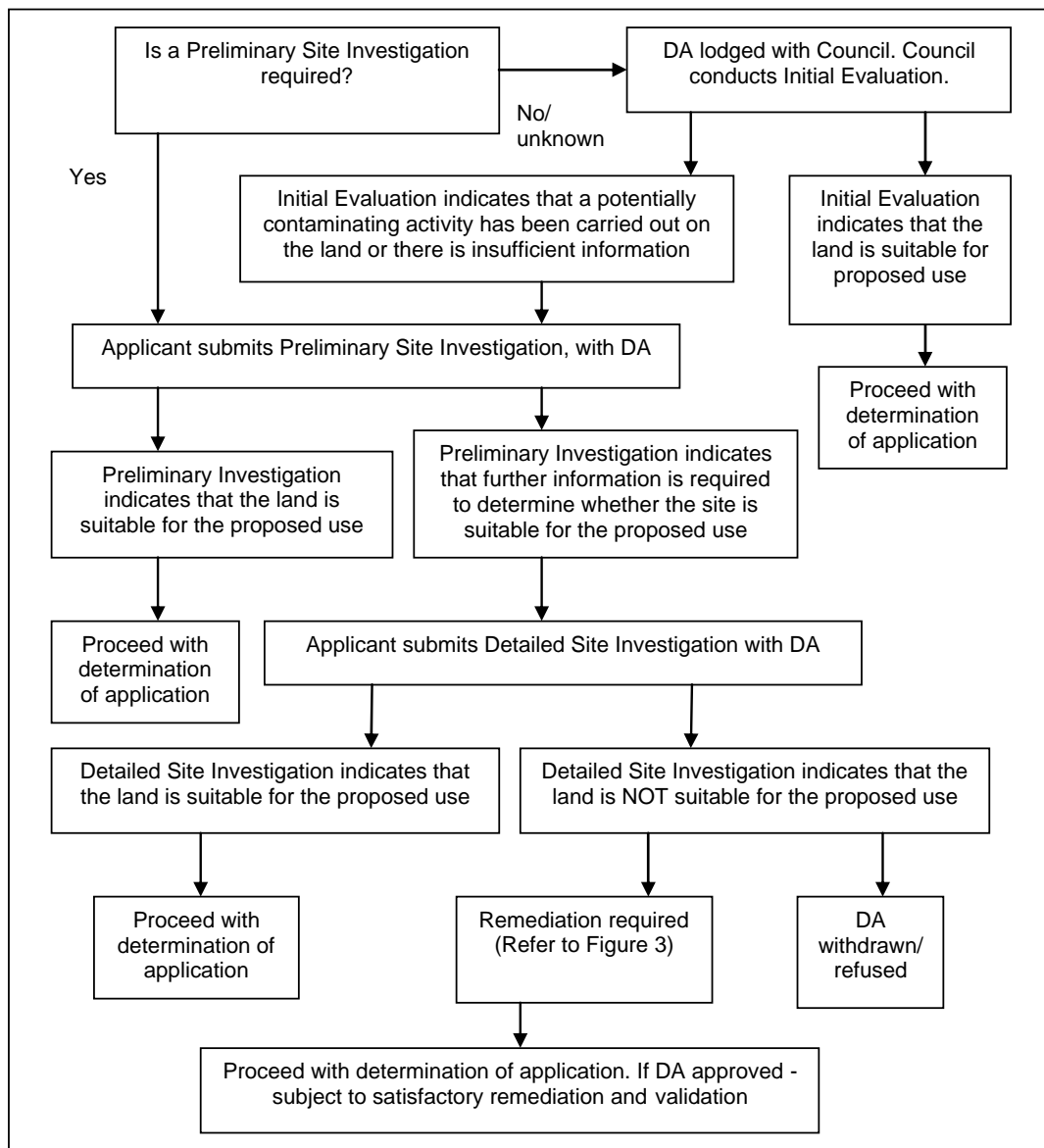
- (c) if the land requires remediation to be made suitable for any purpose for which the development is proposed to be carried out, it is satisfied that the land will be so remediated before the land is used for that purpose.

The following subsections outline when Council will require information relating to site contamination issues to be submitted with development applications.

Council will require a preliminary investigation (referred to as an Initial Site Investigation in s.2 NSW EPA Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites, 1997) be submitted with subdivision and other development applications where past/present banana growing land is identified on all/part of the land, in accordance with Schedule 2.

Council's procedure for considering land contamination issues for development applications is shown in Figure 2.

FIGURE 2: COUNCIL PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING LAND CONTAMINATION ISSUES FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS



NB: Council may require a site audit by an EPA accredited site auditor at any stage of the site investigation process.

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3.3.1 When does Council require a Preliminary Site Contamination Investigation (PSI or Stage 1)?

The objectives of a preliminary investigation are to:

- identify any past or present potentially contaminating activities,
- provide a preliminary assessment of site contamination,
- identify potential contamination types, and
- assess the need for further detailed investigations.

The preliminary investigation typically contains a detailed appraisal of the site history and a report based on some visual inspection and assessment.

Where contaminating activities (for example – activities listed in Schedule 1) are suspected to have or have had the potential to impact upon the land, sampling and analysis is likely to be required to confirm and support any conclusion reached from the site history appraisal.

In accordance with Clause 7(4) of SEPP 55 Council will require a preliminary investigation to be submitted with development applications where the land concerned is:

- (a) land that is within an investigation area,
- (b) land on which development for a purpose referred to in Table 1* to the contaminated land planning guidelines is being, or is known to have been, carried out,
- (c) to the extent to which it is proposed to carry out development on it for residential, educational, recreational or child care purposes, or for the purposes of a hospital-land:
 - (i) in relation to which there is no knowledge (or incomplete knowledge) as to whether development for a purpose referred to in Table 1* to the contaminated land planning guidelines has been carried out, and
 - (ii) on which it would have been lawful to carry out such development during any period in respect of which there is no knowledge (or incomplete knowledge).

Note: Table 1 in the Managing Land Contamination Planning Guidelines 1998, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning & NSW Environment Protection Authority which is reproduced in Schedule 1.*

In addition to the requirements outlined in clause 7(4) of SEPP 55, Council may also require a preliminary investigation to be submitted when:

- Council has reasonable grounds to believe the land is contaminated because of the landuse history, condition, or other information known to Council.
- the site has been investigated and/or remediated but there is insufficient information available about the nature and extent of contamination and/or remediation, or the circumstances have changed.
- there are restrictions on, or conditions attached to, the use of the site by a regulatory or planning authority that are, or may be, related to contamination, but there is insufficient information available about the nature and extent of contamination.
- Council records have demonstrated that the site is associated with pollution incidents or illegal dumping of wastes.
- the site is adjoining land that has been associated with activities that may cause contamination listed in Schedule 1 and it is likely that this may have contaminated the site.

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The preliminary site contamination investigation shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Guidelines made or approved by the NSW EPA in accordance with the CLM Act. The proponent is responsible for engaging a suitably qualified consultant to undertake the preliminary site contamination investigation. In addition, the proponent is responsible for all costs borne in engaging the consultant (and site auditor, if requested by Council).

If Council is satisfied that the preliminary site contamination investigation justifiably concludes that the site is suitable for the proposed use, then Council will not require any further investigations to be conducted.

3.3.2 When does Council require a Detailed Site Contamination Investigation (DSI or Stage 2)?

The objectives of a detailed site investigation are to:

- provide comprehensive information on the issues raised in the preliminary investigation,
- fully characterise the type(s) and level(s) of contamination and the lateral and vertical extent of contamination both on and off site,
- assess the potential risk posed by contaminants to human health and the environment, and
- obtain sufficient information for the development of a Remedial Action Plan if necessary.

Council will require a detailed site investigation to be undertaken when the results of the preliminary investigation demonstrate the potential for, or existence of contamination which may render the proposed use of the land unsuitable, or where Council is not satisfied with the content/completeness of the Stage 1 investigation. In some cases Stage 1 and Stage 2 investigations may be combined where the land is known to contain or has contained a potentially contaminating activity.

The detailed site contamination investigation shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Guidelines made or approved by NSW EPA in accordance with the CLM Act. The proponent is responsible for engaging a suitably qualified consultant to undertake the investigation, and for all costs borne in this engagement.

The detailed site contamination investigation should include a statement which describes whether the site is suitable for the proposed use, or if remediation is necessary to make the site suitable for the proposed use. If remediation is required, the report is to list the feasible remediation options available to remediate the site.

3.3.3 When does Council require a Remedial Action Plan (RAP)?

The objectives of a remedial action plan (RAP) are to:

- set remediation objectives that ensure the site will be suitable for the proposed use and will pose no unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, both on and off the site,
- determine the most appropriate remedial strategy,
- document in detail all procedures and plans to be implemented to reduce risks to acceptable levels for the proposed site use,
- establish environmental and public health safeguards required to complete the remediation in an environmentally acceptable and safe manner, and
- identify necessary approvals that need to be obtained from regulatory authorities.

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Council will require the submission of a RAP if the detailed investigation concludes that the land is not suitable for the proposed use in its present state. Prior to determining the development application, Council must be satisfied that remedial measures have been, or will be, undertaken in accordance with the submitted RAP to make the site suitable for its proposed use. The RAP shall be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Guidelines made or approved by NSW EPA in accordance with the CLM Act.

3.3.4 When does Council require a Validation and Monitoring Report?

The objectives of a validation and monitoring report are to:

- demonstrate that the objectives of the RAP have been achieved and any conditions of development consent have been complied with, or whether any further remediation work or restrictions on land use is required,
- provide evidence confirming that all NSW EPA, WorkCover and other regulatory authorities licence conditions and approval have been met,
- identify the need for continued monitoring in situations where clean-up is not feasible or on-site containment of contamination has occurred, and
- the provision of a clear statement on the suitability of the proposed site use.

Validation must confirm statistically that the remediated site complies with the clean-up criteria set for the site. Council will require a validation and monitoring report to be submitted after remediation works have been completed, and prior to the commencement of any construction works. Council may condition a consent so as to require the submission of a validation and monitoring report prior to the issuing of, for example, a construction certificate. Alternatively, Council could issue a deferred commencement consent for the proposed development, requiring for example that remediation and validation is undertaken prior to the consent being acted upon. In considering a deferred commencement consent Council would need to be satisfied that the land is suitable in its contaminated state (or would be suitable after remediation) for the purpose for which the development is proposed to be carried out.

Refer to Schedule 3 for Council's requirements for Consultants reporting on contaminated land. A list of information sources that may be useful in understanding the history of the site is included in Schedule 4. Applicants may also request Council to perform a search of its records to determine previous approved developments at the site.

4. CONSENT REQUIREMENTS FOR REMEDIATION WORK

SEPP 55 also specifies consent requirements for remediation work.

Remediation work that requires development consent is known as Category 1 work. All other remediation work not requiring development consent is known as Category 2 work. The following section defines Category 1 and Category 2 remediation work, and outlines the site management provisions for Category 2 remediation work.

In accordance with clause 9(f) of SEPP 55, remediation work that is not carried out in accordance with the site management provisions contained in Chapter 7 of this Policy is Category 1 remediation work which requires Council consent. All remediation work must be consistent with the Managing Land Contamination: Planning Guidelines and Guidelines made or approved by NSW EPA. Council's procedure for considering site remediation proposals is shown in Figure 3.

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4.1 Category 1 Remediation Work

Category 1 remediation work, as defined in clause 9 of SEPP 55, is work that requires consent. Category 1 remediation work is advertised development unless the remediation work is designated development or State Significant development. All Category 1 remediation work must be advertised for 30 days pursuant to s.29A of the EP & A Act.

The exact definition of Category 1 remediation work is complicated, and interested persons should refer to clauses 9 and 14 of SEPP 55. In general, Category 1 remediation work comprises remediation work that is:

- designated development
- carried out on critical habitat declared under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994
- likely to have a significant effect on critical habitat or a threatened species, population or ecological community declared under those Acts
- development for which consent is required under another SEPP or REP
- carried out or to be carried out in certain areas or zones to which certain classifications apply under an environmental planning instrument (including the current Coffs Harbour City Local Environmental Plan)
- carried out in a manner that is not consistent with this Policy.

Note: the above list is not exhaustive; refer to SEPP 55 for clarification of Category 1 & 2 remediation.

If remedial works constitute Category 1 remediation work, the applicant may either amend their current application to include a remediation proposal (if applicable) or lodge a new and separate development application for remediation works.

4.2 Category 2 Remediation Work

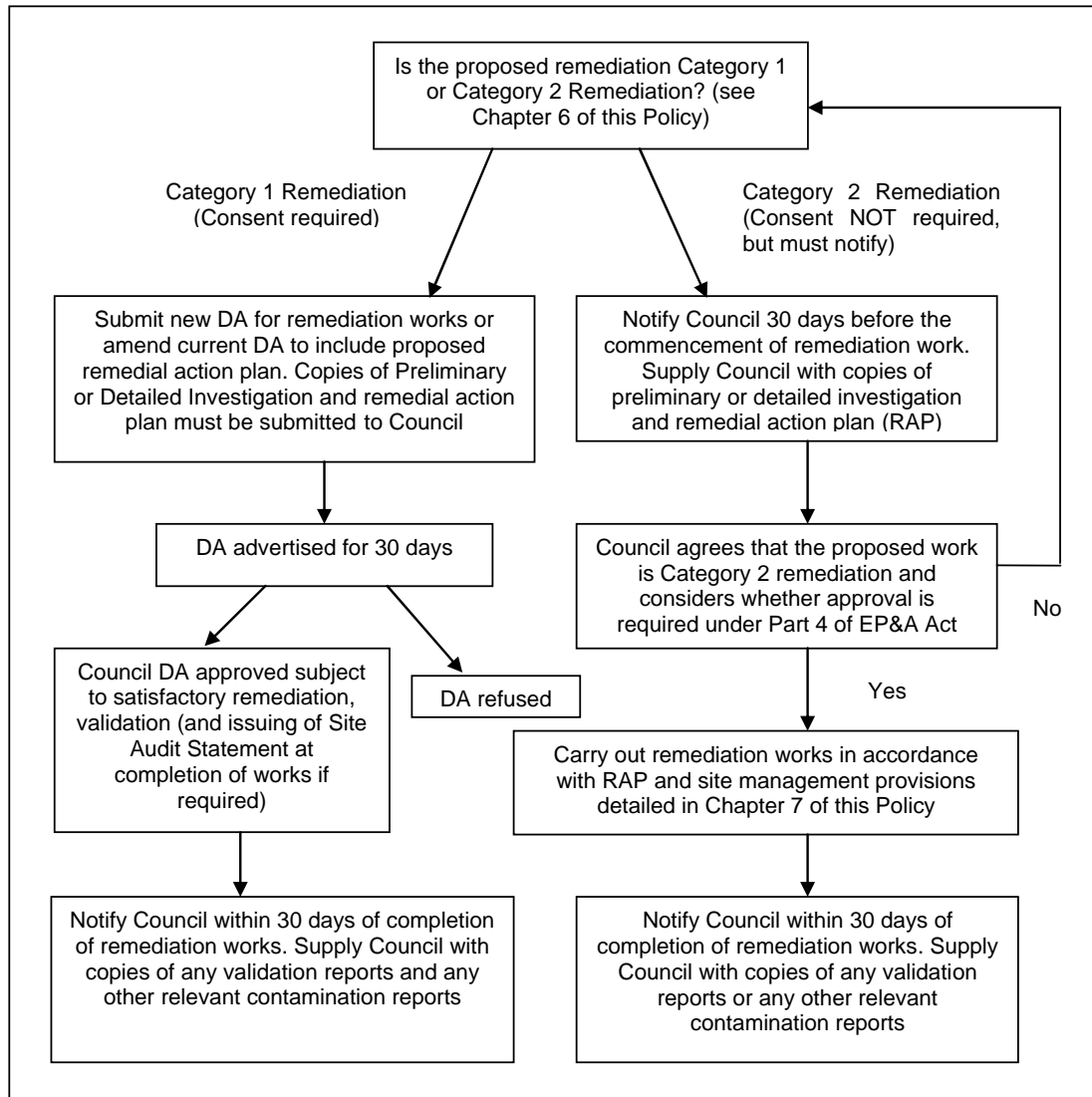
Category 2 remediation work is all remediation work that is not Category 1 remediation work. In accordance with clause 16 of SEPP 55, prior notice of Category 2 remediation work to Council is required at least 30 days before commencement of works.

In addition to the notice that must be submitted to Council under clause 16(3) of SEPP 55, Council will require the following information to be submitted at least 14 days prior to the commencement of Category 2 remediation works:

- copies of the Preliminary Investigation, Detailed Investigation and RAP for the subject site.
- contact details for the remediation contractor and party responsible for ensuring compliance of remediation work with all relevant regulatory requirements (if different to remediation contractor).

Although consent is not required for Category 2 remediation work, Council needs to be satisfied that the site is suitable for the proposed use when considering any subsequent development applications for the subject site. Hence, it is recommended that comprehensive records are maintained during the remediation and validation works for all sites.

FIGURE 3: COUNCIL PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING SITE REMEDIATION WORK



NB: Council may require a site audit by an EPA accredited site auditor at any stage of the site investigation process.

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5. SITE MANAGEMENT - REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Council has identified a number of site management provisions for the conduct of Category 2 remediation works to ensure these works do not adversely impact on the environment or public amenity. These provisions are to be incorporated into a site RAP.

All Category 2 works shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions listed below unless otherwise approved by Council in writing. These provisions apply to the Coffs Harbour City Local Government Area.

Category 2 remediation works that do not comply with the site management provisions outlined in this section will be classified as Category 1 and will require development consent.

Development applications lodged for Category 1 remediation works should identify any areas of non-compliance with these provisions and identify any alternative site management measures to be implemented.

Note: It is the responsibility of those remediating a site to ensure compliance with all relevant environmental legislation and regulations. Compliance with the site management provisions outlined below does not imply that all relevant environmental legislation and regulations have been complied with. Proponents shall at all times comply with the provisions of the Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) Act 1997.

5.1 Hours of Operation

All remediation work (including the delivery/removal of materials or equipment) shall be conducted within the following hours:

Monday - Friday	7am - 6pm
Saturday	8am - 1pm
No work permitted on Sundays or Public Holidays.	

5.2 Soil and Water Management

All remediation works shall be conducted in accordance with a site specific soil and water management plan. The preparation of the soil and water management plan should reflect as a minimum the requirements of "Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction – Volume 1" (Landcom 2004). The plan should aim to segregate and manage both contaminated and non-contaminated areas in a manner that minimises cross-contamination. A copy of the RAP incorporating the soil and water management plan shall be kept on-site and made available to Council Officers on request.

All erosion and sediment control measures must be maintained in a functional condition throughout the remediation works.

A summary of the soil and water management measures for Category 2 remediation work in relation to acid sulfate soils, stockpiles, site access, excavation pump out, landscaping/rehabilitation and bunding are discussed below:

Acid Sulfate Soils

Where remediation work involves the excavation of soil the proponent shall consult Council's Local Environmental Plan and provisions relating to acid sulfate soils and associated acid sulfate soils map to assess whether a preliminary assessment of the potential for acid sulfate soils is required.

Stockpiles

No stockpiles of soil or other materials shall be placed on footpaths or nature strips unless prior Council approval has been obtained. All stockpiles of soil or other materials shall be placed away from drainage lines, gutters or stormwater pits or inlets. All stockpiles of soil or other materials shall have appropriate sediment and erosion controls measure employed. All stockpiles of soil or other materials likely to generate dust or odours shall be covered. All stockpiles of contaminated soil shall be stored in a secure area and be covered if remaining more than 12 hours. Stockpiling of contaminated soil requires special measures to manage the generation of leachate, runoff, vapours and air borne particles (discussed below).

Site Access

Vehicle access to the site shall be stabilised to prevent the tracking of sediment onto the roads and footpath. Soil, earth, mud or similar materials must be removed from the roadway by sweeping, shoveling, or a means other than washing, on a daily basis or as required. Soil washings from wheels shall be collected and disposed of in a manner that does not pollute waters. Measures for the collection, treatment and disposal of contaminated vehicle washdown waters are to be included in the soil and water management plan.

Excavation Pump-out

Only clean and unpolluted waters are to be discharged to Council's stormwater system or any watercourse. Any discharge must satisfy the provisions of the Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) Act 1997.

All pump-out water must be analysed for suspended solid concentrations, pH and any contaminants of concern identified during the detailed site investigation, prior to discharge to the stormwater system. The analytical results must comply with the relevant NSW EPA and ANZECC standards for water quality. Other options for the disposal of excavation pump-out water include disposal to sewer with prior approval from Council, or off-site disposal by a liquid waste transporter for treatment/disposal to an appropriate waste treatment/processing facility.

Landscaping/Rehabilitation

All exposed areas shall be stabilised and re-vegetated on completion of remediation works.

Bunding

Any area used for the remediation of contaminated soils shall be banded to contain surface water runoff & runoff and designed and constructed as to prevent the leaching of contaminants into the subsurface/groundwater. All surface water discharges from banded areas to Council's stormwater system shall not contain detectable levels of the contaminants of concern and must comply with the relevant NSW EPA and ANZECC standards for water quality. Any discharge must satisfy the provisions of the POEO Act 1997 and similar legislation.

5.3 Noise and Vibration

Category 2 remediation work shall comply with the NSW EPA Interim Construction Noise Guideline (2009) for the control of construction site noise.

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All equipment and machinery shall be operated in an efficient manner to minimise the emission of noise. The use of any plant and/or machinery shall not cause vibrations in excess of the relevant NSW guidelines and Australian Standards, on any adjoining premises.

5.4 Air Quality

Dust Control

Dust emissions shall be appropriately controlled. The following dust control procedures may be employed to comply with this requirement:

- The erection of dust screens around the perimeter of the site and any material handling areas
- Securely covering all loads entering or exiting the site
- Covering of all stockpiles of contaminated soil remaining more than 12 hours; and
- Use of water sprays across the site to suppress dust and keep excavation surfaces moist.

Odour/Vapour Control

Offensive odours shall be effectively controlled, so that they are not detected at any boundary of the site during remediation works by an Authorised Council Officer relying solely on sense of smell. The following procedures may be employed to comply with this requirement:

- use of appropriate covering techniques such as the use of plastic sheeting to cover excavation faces or stockpiles
- use of fine mist sprays
- use of a hydrocarbon mitigating agent on the impacted areas/materials; and
- adequate maintenance of equipment and machinery to minimise exhaust emissions.

Volatile or semi-volatile compounds that could generate odours include monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (styrene, benzene, toluene, xylene, ethyl benzene butyl benzene), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's), hydrogen sulphide, hydrogen cyanide, pesticides, PCB's, solvents, phenols and herbicides.

Records of volatile emissions and odours shall be logged, kept on site and made available to Council Officers on request. Discharges from soil vapour extraction systems shall be regularly monitored in order to determine the mass of hydrocarbons that are being discharged to the atmosphere. Contingency measures for the collection and treatment of hydrocarbon off-gas shall be put in place prior to the commissioning of the soil vapour extraction systems. All discharge vents from soil vapour extraction systems shall be located a minimum of 20 metres from any residential boundary, road or recreational area. No material shall be burnt on-site.

Emissions should achieve ambient ground level air quality concentration criteria in NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change's (DECC) *Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in New South Wales* (August 2005).

5.5 Groundwater

A licence shall be obtained from the NSW Office of Water for approval to extract groundwater under the provisions of the Water Act 1912. Groundwater shall be analysed for pH and any contaminants of concern identified during the detailed site investigation, prior to discharge to the stormwater system. The analytical results must comply with the relevant NSW EPA and ANZECC standards for water quality.

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Other options for the disposal of excavation pump-out water include disposal to sewer with prior approval from Council, or off-site disposal by a liquid waste transporter for treatment/disposal to an appropriate waste treatment/processing facility.

5.6 Transport

All haulage routes for trucks transporting soil, materials, equipment or machinery to and from the site shall be selected to meet the following objectives:

- comply with all road rules,
- comply with the Protection of the Environment Operations Act, and
- minimise noise, vibration and odour to adjacent premises.

Applicants should consult Council prior to selecting the most suitable transport route. Category 2 remediation work shall ensure that all site vehicles:

- Securely cover all loads to prevent dust or odour emissions during transport,
- Exit the site in a forward direction, and
- Do not track soil, mud or sediment onto any public road.

5.7 Hazardous Materials

Hazardous and/or intractable wastes arising from the remediation work shall be removed and disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the NSW EPA and WorkCover Authority, together with the relevant regulations, including:

- Work Health and Safety Act and Regulations,
- Contaminated Land Management Act and Regulations, and
- Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Act and Regulations.

Under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 the transportation of Schedule 1 Hazardous Waste is a scheduled activity and must be carried out by a transporter licensed by the NSW Environment Protection Authority.

5.8 Disposal of Contaminated Soil

The disposal of contaminated soils shall have regard to the provision of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act and Regulations and any relevant NSW EPA guidelines such as the "Waste Classification Guidelines" (2009). Proponents shall consult with Council to determine the capability of Council waste facilities to accept contaminated waste prior to its removal from site.

Note: If contaminated soil or other waste is transported to a site unlawfully, the owner of the waste, the transporter & the owner of the land receiving the waste are all guilty of an offence.

5.9 Containment/Capping of Contaminated Soil

No contaminated soil shall be encapsulated or capped on the site that contains concentrations of contaminants that are above the soil investigation levels for urban development sites in NSW for the range of land-uses permissible on the subject site. The on-site containment of contaminated soil is a Category 1 remediation work under this policy, and therefore requires development consent of Council. The soil investigation levels for urban redevelopment in NSW are contained in NSW EPA Guidelines for the NSW Site Auditor Scheme (2006).

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5.10 Importation of Fill

All fill imported to the site shall be validated to ensure the fill is suitable for the proposed land use from a contamination perspective, and shall also be compatible with the existing soil characteristics for site drainage purposes. Council may require details of the appropriate validation of imported fill material to be submitted with any application for future development of the site. Hence all fill imported onto the site should be validated by either one or both of the following methods during remediation works:

- imported fill should be accompanied by documentation from the supplier which certifies that the material is not contaminated based upon analyses of the material or the known past history of the site from where the material is obtained; and/or
- sampling and analysis of the fill material should be conducted in accordance with the NSW EPA Sampling Design Guidelines (1995) to ensure that the material is not contaminated.

All fill shall satisfy the statutory definition of Virgin Excavated Natural Material (VENM), or satisfy all the requirements of NSW EPA's: "the excavated natural material exemption 2008" made under Part 6, Clause 51 and 51A of the Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005 – General Exemptions. Council's Landform Modification Information Sheet shall also be complied with.

5.11 Site Signage, Contact Numbers and Site Security

A sign displaying the contact details of the remediation contractor (and site manager) shall be displayed on the site adjacent to the site access, for the duration of remediation works. The site shall be secured to ensure against unauthorised access using an appropriate fence.

5.12 Community Consultation

Owners and/or occupants of premises adjoining, and adjacent to the site shall be notified by the proponent at least two days prior to the commencement of Category 2 remediation works.

5.13 Occupational Health and Safety

It is the employer's responsibility to ensure that all site remediation works shall comply with all Occupational Health and Safety and Construction Safety Regulations of WorkCover NSW, including the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011.

5.14 Removal of Underground Storage Tanks

The removal of underground petroleum storage tanks shall be undertaken in accordance with the Australian Standards AS 4976-2008 "The removal and disposal of underground petroleum storage tanks", AS 2601-1991 "Demolition of structures" and AS 1940-1993 "Storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids", and WorkCover NSW requirements. Proponents shall also comply with the provisions of the "Protection of the Environment Operations (Underground Petroleum Storage Systems) Regulation 2008" and associated "Guidelines for Implementing the POEO (Underground Petroleum Storage Systems) Regulation 2008".

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6. INDEPENDENT AUDITING

Council may request that a site audit be undertaken at any or all stages in the site investigation process. Council will require a site audit to be prepared for contaminated land if Council:

- believes on reasonable grounds that the information provided by the proponent is incorrect or incomplete;
- wishes to verify whether the information provided by the proponent has adhered to appropriate standards, procedures and guidelines; or
- does not have the internal resources to conduct its own technical review.

The CLM Act defines a site audit as: “a review:

- a) that relates to management (whether under this Act or otherwise) of the actual or possible contamination of land, and
- b) that is conducted for the purpose of determining any one or more of the following matters:
 - (i) the nature and extent of any contamination of the land,
 - (ii) the nature and extent of any management of actual or possible contamination of the land,
 - (iii) whether the land is suitable for any specified use or range of uses,
 - (iv) what management remains necessary before the land is suitable for any specified use or range of uses,
 - (v) the suitability and appropriateness of a plan of management, long-term management plan or a voluntary management proposal.”

Appropriately qualified contaminated land consultants may provide an independent review of another consultants work only where the audit is not a ‘statutory site audit’. A statutory site audit may only be carried out by an NSW EPA accredited site auditor.

Section 47 of the CLM Act defines a ‘statutory site audit’ as “a site audit carried out in order to secure compliance with one or more of the following:

- a) a requirement under this Act,
- b) an approved voluntary management proposal,
- c) a requirement imposed by *State Environmental Planning Policy No 55-Remediation of Land* or by any other environmental planning instrument made under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* or by any development consent or approval given under that Act,
- d) any other requirement imposed by or under an Act,

unless it is carried out only in order to secure compliance with a legal obligation arising from an agreement or arising in such other circumstances as the regulations may prescribe.”

Independent reviews by non-accredited auditors are to be undertaken only by individuals who can clearly demonstrate that they satisfy the necessary requirements (as applicable to the works) of Schedule 3 – ‘Council’s requirements for consultants reporting on contaminated land’ for the nominated review activity.

The proponent will be informed through a statutory process or otherwise by Council if an independent review is required.

The proponent is responsible for engaging an appropriately qualified consultant for the independent review and for bearing the costs associated.

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7. COUNCIL RECORDS AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Council has a responsibility to provide known information regarding land use history, land contamination and remediation.

The *Managing Land Contamination Planning Guidelines* emphasise the importance of local government information systems in ensuring that adequate information is available to Council staff and the community in relation to both actual and potential land contamination. Council also has a statutory responsibility to include certain contaminated land information on Planning Certificates, where known.

Council has conducted a review of readily available information to gather information on land use history and potentially contaminated land. The process of information collection about land contamination will be ongoing as new information becomes available, particularly as investigation or remediation is carried out.

7.1 How Council's Information on Land Contamination is Managed

Council does not hold a definitive 'register' of contaminated sites. Council's records regarding contamination issues are dynamic and will change over time as land is investigated, remediated and validated and as new sites of potential contamination are identified.

Existing records in relation to site contamination issues are kept on individual property files for each parcel of land. To assist Council in the management of land contamination issues the following information is recorded for individual parcels of land (where available/known):

- Site contamination reports submitted to Council (i.e. Preliminary Investigation, Detailed Investigation, Remedial Action Plans, Validation and Monitoring Reports).
- Site Audit Statements received by Council.
- NSW EPA declarations and orders issued under the CLM Act (including voluntary investigation & remediation proposals agreed by the NSW EPA).
- Development applications for Category 1 remediation works.
- Prior notification to Council of Category 2 remediation works.
- Notification to Council of completion of Category 1 & Category 2 remediation work.
- Information regarding previous or current land uses which may have resulted in site contamination.

All existing data on potential and existing and contaminated land is being captured in GIS digital data contained within the featured dataset "LandContamination". This dataset within Council's Geographical Information System (GIS), is not necessarily comprehensive or definitive and should be viewed as evolving. Council's GIS dataset regarding potentially contaminated land (comprised of several layers) will need to be regularly updated and thereby regularly reported to Council as new information is provided to Council. A notation in relation to contamination against a property on the information system does not necessarily imply the actual existence of contamination on the property. This can only be determined as a result of a sampling and analysis program.

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For example, prior to urban settlement sizeable areas of Coffs Harbour were covered by agricultural and horticultural land uses, which are listed in the *Managing Land Contamination Planning Guidelines* as activities that may cause contamination. Council has not attempted to identify all areas of agricultural and horticultural uses. Instead intensive uses, such as banana plantations, identified through air photo interpretation, will be identified on the information system. Former cattle-tick dip sites have also been identified from information provided by the NSW Government's Department of Primary Industries.

Notations may be made on the property information system in relation to investigations and remediation work carried out for individual properties. This will identify land which has been fully remediated or remediated for specific land uses.

Some properties listed on the information system may be subject to legal notices under legislation administered by the NSW EPA. The public should consult with the NSW EPA for up-to-date information on any such land in the local government area.

7.2 How Do Potential Purchasers Know if Land is Potentially Contaminated?

Under Section 149 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*, a person may request from Council a Planning Certificate that contains advice on matters about a property. For example, the existence of a council policy to restrict the use of land would be shown on a Planning Certificate, however, in order to ensure that the most up-to-date information is accessed, please also refer to the NSW EPA's public register of contaminated sites, which is available on the NSW EPA's website, www.environment.nsw.gov.au, or otherwise directly with the NSW EPA.

Council's Planning Certificates may include the following notations in relation to contaminated land.

7.2.1 Notations for Planning (Section 149) Certificates

The following italicized questions and notations (as appropriate) will appear on a s.149(2) Planning Certificate for a property. The normal text provides guidance as to which notation should be used.

7.2.1.1 Matters arising under the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997:

- (i) *Is the land to which this certificate relates within land declared to be "significantly contaminated land" under Part 3 of Contaminated Land Management Act 1997 at the date this certificate is issued?*

Yes/No

- (ii) *Is the land to which this certificate relates subject to a "management order" within the meaning of that Act at the date this certificate is issued?*

Yes/No

- (iii) *Is the land to which this certificate relates the subject of an approved voluntary management proposal the subject of the Department of Environment and Conservation's agreement under section 17 of that Act and the proposal has not been fully carried out at the date this certificate is issued?*

Yes/No

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(iv) *Is the land to which this certificate relates subject to an “ongoing maintenance order” within the meaning of the Act at the date this certificate is issued?*

Yes/No

(v) *Has a copy of a site audit statement, concerning the land to which this certificate relates, been provided to Council prior to the issuing of this certificate?*

Yes/No

7.2.1.2 Has the Council by resolution adopted a policy to restrict the development of the land by reason of the likelihood of landslip, flooding, subsidence, tidal inundation, acid sulfate soils, potential land contamination, or any other risk?:

Planning Certificates will be notated with one of the following statements depending on what information Council has in relation to the state of contamination (or potential contamination) of the site which is the subject of the Certificate. This will include where land is subject to regulation under the Contaminated Land Management Act by the NSW EPA.

1. Where Council’s contaminated land policy restricts the use of the land which:

- Has a previous land use history which could have involved use of contaminants on the site, for example, land which may have been used for an activity listed in Schedule 1; or
- Is known to be contaminated, but
- Has not been remediated.

An appropriate notation will be:

Yes, Council has adopted by resolution a Contaminated Land Management Policy which may restrict the development of the land. This policy is implemented when zoning or land use changes are proposed on land which may have previously been used for certain purposes. Consideration of Council’s adopted policy and the application of provisions under relevant State legislation is warranted.

2. Where Council’s contaminated land policy restricts the use of land which:

- Is known to contain contaminants, but
- Has been remediated for a particular use or range of uses and some contamination remains on the site. An appropriate notation will be:

Yes, Council has adopted by resolution a Contaminated Land Management Policy which may restrict the development of land. This policy is implemented when zoning or land use changes are proposed on lands which are considered to be contaminated, or on land which has been remediated for a specific use. Consideration of Council’s adopted policy and the application of provisions under relevant State legislation is warranted.

3. Where Council’s contaminated land policy restricts the use of the land which:

- Has a previous land use history which could have involved use of contaminants on the site, for example, land which may have been used for an activity listed in Schedule 1; and
- Part of the land has been assessed and the area tested satisfied sensitive landuse thresholds, but

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- The remainder of the land remains un-assessed.

An appropriate notation will be:

Yes, Council has adopted by resolution a Contaminated Land Management Policy which may restrict the development of the land. This policy is implemented when zoning or land use changes are proposed on land which may have previously been used for certain purposes. Part of the land has previously been assessed and the area tested satisfied sensitive landuse thresholds under Environment Protection Authority Guidelines. Consideration of Council's adopted policy and the application of provisions under relevant State legislation is warranted.

4. No notation would be necessary under this question on a Section 149(2) of the EP&A Act where Council's Policy does not restrict the use of land and is unlikely to result in a restriction once the land has been further investigated. This would include:
 - Land which has been used for a purpose listed in Schedule 1 but which has been remediated to an extent that no restriction on land use is necessary; or
 - There is a history of non-contaminating activities on the land and there is no evidence to suggest that the land has been used for a purpose listed in Schedule 1.

However, all other Certificates contain the following information:

Note: Extensive tracts of land within the City have been used for commercial, industrial and other agricultural pursuits. It is possible some of this land is contaminated with chemical residues to a level exceeding levels regarded by the Environment Protection Authority as safe for particular development. A review of Council's readily available records has been conducted to identify previous land uses that may have caused land contamination. This review did not reveal any reason for contamination of this property. However, prospective purchasers should make their own enquiries on this subject concerning the land the subject of this Certificate.

Section 149(5) of the EP&A Act provides that Planning Certificates may contain advice on such other relevant matters affecting the land of which Council may be aware. However, Council does not provide any additional information in relation to site contamination under this section.

7.2.2 How can Property Owners change the Notation on the Planning Certificate for their Property?

Council will take into consideration any information that the property owner or proponent can provide in relation to contamination or land use. However, Council will take a precautionary approach when considering new information and may consult the NSW EPA when necessary in order to make a decision.

Council may require further information from the property owner or proponent when it:

- Believes on reasonable ground that the information provided by the proponent is incorrect or incomplete;
- Wishes to verify the information provided by the proponent adheres to appropriate standards, procedures and guidelines;
- Does not have the internal resources to conduct its own technical review.

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7.3 Access to Council Information

For information on accessing Council information, refer to the Open Government section of our website www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au or contact Council.

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Attachment 1

8. REFERENCE MATERIAL

- ANZECC/NHMRC (1992) *Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for the Management of Contaminated Sites*. Australian and New Zealand Environment Conservation Council/National Health Medical Research Council.
 - Department of Urban Affairs and Planning & NSW EPA (1998) *Managing Land Contamination: Planning Guidelines SEPP 55-Remediation of Land*. DUAP.
 - Landcom (2004) *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction – Volume 1*
 - National Environment Protection Council (NEPC) (1999) *National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure (NEPM)*
(Available online: www.ephc.gov.au/nepms/cs/con_sites)
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (1994) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for Assessing Service Station Sites*.
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (1995) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for the Vertical Mixing of Soil on Former Broad-Acre Agricultural Land*.
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (1995) *Contaminated Sites: Sampling Design Guidelines*
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (1998) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites*.
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (1997) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites*.
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (June 2009) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines on the Duty to Report Contamination under Contaminated Land Management Act*.
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (2009) *Interim Construction Noise Guideline*
 - Department of Environment Climate Change & Water (2009) *Waste Classification Guidelines Part 1: Classifying Wastes*.
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (2005) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for Assessing Former Orchards and Market Gardens*.
 - Department of Environment & Climate Change (2006) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for the NSW Site Auditor Scheme (2nd Edition)*.
 - Department of Environment & Conservation NSW (2007) *Contaminated Sites: Guidelines for the Assessment and Management of Groundwater Contamination*.
- NB: EPA Guidelines available by phone: 131555 or online:
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/clm/index.htm
- NSW Government (1998) *State Environmental Planning Policy No.55 - Remediation of Land*. Search on internet via: www.legislation.nsw.gov.au
 - Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (1999) *Model Policy on Contaminated Land*.
 - Ku-ring-gai Council (2004) *Contaminated Land Policy*.

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9. APPENDICES

Schedule 1: Some Activities that may cause Contamination

- acid/alkali plant and formulation
- agricultural/horticultural activities
- airports
- asbestos production and disposal
- chemicals manufacture and formulation
- defence works
- drum re-conditioning works
- dry cleaning establishments
- electrical manufacturing (transformers)
- electroplating and heat treatment premises
- engine works
- explosives industry
- gas works
- iron and steel works
- landfill sites
- metal treatment
- mining and extractive industries
- oil production and storage
- paint formulation and manufacture
- pesticide manufacture and formulation
- power stations
- railway yards
- scrap yards
- service stations
- sheep and cattle dips
- smelting and refining
- tanning and associated trades
- waste storage and treatment
- wood preservation

Source: Table 1 of Department of Urban Affairs and Planning & NSW EPA (1998) *Managing Land Contamination: Planning Guidelines SEPP 55-Remediation of Land*. DUAP, Sydney. For information on chemicals commonly associated with these activities see Appendix A of that document.

Note: It is not sufficient to rely solely on the contents of this Table to determine whether a site is likely to be contaminated or not. The Table is a guide only. A conclusive status can only be determined after a review of the site history and, if necessary, sampling and analysis.

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Attachment 1

Schedule 2: Special Requirements for Former Banana Growing Lands**Council's Banana Lands Maps**

Council has mapped historic banana growing lands. This map is held in Council records and Information Management System. The map is based on aerial photograph interpretation for years: 1945, 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, and 1994.

Banana growing lands are included under Schedule 1: Some Activities That May Cause Contamination under "Agricultural/Horticultural".

Justification for Inclusion of Banana Lands

Council has designated all land mapped as past/present banana growing land, as being potentially contaminated requiring assessment prior to giving consent for a change in land zoning or use. The designation is based on previous studies completed in association between the Council, NSW EPA and Department of Agriculture. These studies identified banana growing as a landuse which has resulted in elevated concentrations of pesticide related agricultural chemical residues.

The primary contaminants identified were Arsenic (As), Lead (Pb) and Organochlorine pesticides (including Dieldrin, Aldrin & DDT). These metals and compounds are considered to be persistent within the environment and can pose a threat to human health and the environment at certain concentrations.

Notations on Council's Information System and s149 Certificates

Council's information system has provision for notations relating to contaminated land. Banana growing land is one landuse of particular concern on the system, with the banana land maps having been reproduced in digital format. Any parcel of land for which a Planning Certificate is issued where banana growing land is identified as occurring on all/part of the lot, is subject to notation as per s.7.2. Council officers will adjust the notations as information is provided by consultants.

Zoning and Rezoning Application Requirements

The assessment of potential contamination associated with banana growing land should occur at the earliest stages in the planning process. Preferably this would occur at the rezoning stage. Where rezoning has already occurred without this consideration, the assessment should occur at the subdivision stage.

Where the maps designate former banana growing land within the proposal area, a preliminary investigation (referred to as an Initial Site Investigation in s.2 NSW EPA Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites) will be required. This assessment should be based on NSW EPA 1997 Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites, and will be conducted by an appropriately qualified and experienced consultant. Refer to Schedule 3 for Council's requirements for consultants.

Subdivision and Development Applications Requirements

Applications should be dealt with in accordance with this Policy. Where the maps designate former banana growing land within the proposal area an Initial Site Assessment will be required. This assessment should be based on NSW EPA 1997 Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites, and will be conducted by an appropriately qualified and experienced consultant. Refer to Schedule 3 for Council's requirements for consultants.

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Exemptions

Where Council has already received a site investigation report for banana growing land which demonstrates that the land is not contaminated; or a successful validation report for remediation work carried out on such land, Council will consider the investigated/validated area of such land exempt from the requirements of this Schedule.

Residential Development Applications on Large Rural Lots

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Policy, where it is proposed to build a dwelling on a parcel of land having an area greater than 1500 square metres, that part of the parcel comprising the building envelope upon which the dwelling is to be erected having an area of not less than 1500 square metres shall be taken to be the site of the proposed development for the purposes of this Policy. This is seen by Council to provide protection of human health within areas of greatest exposure potential to potentially contaminated soils, and minimise the costs associated with sampling and analysis.

Council's information management system, including Planning Certificates, will reflect the limited nature of the assessment in this instance.

Further Site Assessment, Remediation and Validation Requirements

Where an Initial Site Investigation shows that the land is contaminated with levels of chemical residues above NSW EPA human health investigation thresholds, further assessment is required to delineate the vertical and lateral extent of the contamination. This assessment should be based on NSW EPA 1997 Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites, and will be conducted by an appropriately qualified and experienced consultant. Refer to Schedule 3 for Council's requirements for consultants.

Similarly where remediation is necessary to make the land suitable for its current or intended use, the remediation and validation necessary should be carried out in accordance with NSW EPA 1997 Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites, provisions within this Policy and other relevant guidelines.

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Attachment 1

Schedule 3: Council's Requirements for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Land

- Consultants undertaking any investigations and associated reporting on potentially-contaminated land in the Coffs Harbour City Local Government Area shall certify or provide the following, as an annexure to their reports (at least at the initial contact):
1. That they have relevant qualifications and demonstrated experience and expertise in the following:
 - Contaminated land assessment
 - Soil sampling, Design and methodology
 - Groundwater sampling, design and methodology
 - Interpretation of analytical data
 - Quality control/assurance procedures and
 - Assessment of contaminant exposure pathways and risks.
 2. That they have a good understanding of the impact of contaminated land on the environment, public and worker health and safety.
 3. That they have a good understanding of the NSW legislation relating to contaminated sites and environmental protection.
 4. That they have a good understanding of NSW EPA and DUAP Guidelines regarding contaminated sites.
 5. That they have access to expertise in the following areas:
 - Geotechnical/ hydrogeology
 - Environmental chemistry
 - Soil science
 - Eco-toxicology
 - Contaminant transport and exposure assessment
 - Sampling and analysis
 - Risk evaluation, and
 - Remedial technologies and associated requirements
 6. That they are able to conduct an investigation in a logical fashion and be able to critically review information and compile reports to a high scientific/engineering standard for contaminated land assessments.
 7. Evidence of current insurance for professional indemnity and public liability.

Information shall be provided by consultants in accordance with the "Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites", NSW EPA (1995).

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Schedule 4: Sources of Site History Information for Preliminary Site Investigations

- Past aerial photographs
- Council records - town planning, development and building applications, complaints, pollution incident reports
- Other State instrumentalities
- Previous site examinations
- Local historical publications
- Current and previous site owners
- Current and previous site workers
- Long-term residents
- Past and present telephone books
- Noxious Trades Act register of Noxious Trades
- NSW Environment Protection Authority Section 35 Notices, past and present scheduled premises, unhealthy building land
- Coffs Harbour City Council Trade Waste Agreements
- WorkCover Authority Dangerous Goods branch
- Electricity providers sites containing present and past electrical substations.

Source: SSROC (1999) Model Policy on Contaminated Land

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Attachment 1

10. TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

Amendment	Authorised by	Approval reference	Date

DRAFT COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013 - ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS AND MINOR AMENDMENTS

Purpose:

To recommend that Council adopt the following additions and amendments to draft Coffs Harbour Development Control Plan (DCP) 2013:

1. a proposed new component that addresses contaminated land management (Component D2 Contaminated Land Management) (Attachment 1);
2. a proposed new component that addresses flooding and coastal hazards (Component D3 Flooding and Coastal Hazards) (Attachment 2); and
3. provisions for autonomous (or on-site renewable) energy generation (within Component B1 Subdivision Requirements), along with minor amendments to other components: A1, B2, C1, C2, C7, C8, E2, E3, E5, E7, E8, E9, E10, E11, E12, E13 and E14 (Attachment 3).

It is further recommended that Component E15 Tourist Development Precincts be held and reported to Council on the completion of the Dress Circle Planning Proposal.

Description of Item:

At its meeting of 9 May 2013, Council endorsed the public exhibition of the above-mentioned additions and amendments to draft DCP 2013, as set out below:

1. Council adopt draft Component D2 – Contaminated Land Management, being an additional component to Coffs Harbour Development Control Plan 2013 as separately appended.
2. Council adopt draft Component D3 – Flooding and Coastal Hazards, being an additional component to Coffs Harbour Development Control Plan 2013 as separately appended.
3. Council adopt the minor amendments to Components A1, B1, B2, C1, C2, C7, C8, E2, E3, E5, E7, E8, E9, E10, E11, E12, E13, E14 and E15 of the draft Development Control Plan, including the proposed controls for on-site renewable energy generation as separately appended.
4. Council publicly exhibit the new and amended draft Development Control Plan components for a period of 42 days consistent with the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000.
5. Following the statutory public exhibition period, Council consider a further report including a summary of any submissions received.

The statutory public exhibition period ended on 3 July 2013. No submissions were received during the exhibition period and in accordance with the above-mentioned Council resolution, this report recommends that Council adopt the changes as proposed, with the exception of Component E15 (Tourist Development Precincts).

Component E15 affects land currently on exhibition at Dress Circle, Coffs Harbour. At its meeting of 11 July 2013, Council endorsed the public exhibition of Planning Proposal PP_2013_Coffs_001_00 for Dress Circle, Coffs Harbour, as set out below:

1. *Council resolve to exhibit PP_2013_COFFS_001_00 (Attachment 1) in accordance with the NSW Planning and Infrastructure's Gateway Determination and Sections 56(2)(c) and 57 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*
2. *Council resolve to exhibit an amendment to draft Coffs Harbour Development Control Plan 2013 Component E15 Tourist Residential Development Requirements (Attachment 2) in accordance with Clause 18(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000.*
3. *The Planning Proposal and the draft Development Control Plan amendment documents be exhibited jointly for a period of 28 days.*
4. *A further report regarding the outcome of the exhibition be presented to Council.*

By holding Component E15 over until the completion of the Planning Proposal exhibition, this will allow this Component to be assessed and reported to Council post exhibition in one instance.

Background:

- **Proposed New Component to DCP 2013 – Contaminated Land Management**

The Contaminated Land Management (D2) Component of the DCP (Attachment 1) has been made to complement the new Contaminated Land Management Policy (reported separately to Council on 8 August 2013). It requires compliance with the policy provisions once they are adopted by Council. The Contaminated Land Management Component (D2) of draft DCP 2013 includes reference to specific requirements and standards to be observed when proposing to develop land that is potentially contaminated.

The D2 Component of the DCP will assist in providing a more structured, consistent and transparent approach to Council's regulation and management of contaminated land and potentially contaminated land, within the local government area (LGA). It will assist contaminated land management within the planning and development processes of Council.

- **Proposed New Component to DCP 2013 – Flooding and Coastal Hazards**

- **Flooding**

During the DCP (2013)/LEP (2013) exhibition period, it was acknowledged that the DCP did not include a specific component devoted to flooding and coastal hazard issues.

A specific component, being D3 Flooding and Coastal Hazards (Attachment 2) has now been added to the DCP.

Due to the complexity of the issue, and the existence and reliance on supporting documents (catchment flood studies etc), Council's Floodplain Development and Management Policy will also remain in place, and the DCP component will reference the policy.

– **Coastal Hazards**

Under recent changes to the NSW Coastal Protection Act 1979, Councils along the NSW coast are now required to determine the risk of coastal erosion and sea level rise to their local government areas.

Over the last couple of years, Council has been developing a Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) to better plan for these risks in the Coffs Harbour local government area (LGA). The CZMP was considered by Council at its meeting held on 14 February 2013 where it resolved:

1. *Council adopt the Coffs Harbour Coastal Zone Management Plan with the following amendment to Action A6:*

Delete text in action column and replace with:

Investigate options (Protect, Accommodate or Retreat) to mitigate coastal hazard risk to Woolgoolga SLSC.

Note: the erosion escarpment is within 15m of the Woolgoolga SLSC, and the building is likely to require renewal in the near future. Interim protection works at the base of the structure (e.g. dumped rock) should be considered.

Under Timing / Triggers

2013 finalise risk management option.

2014 or as soon as practical commence investigations for a replacement structure, and put into forward works plans, and Asset Management Plan. When funding is available, rebuild asset further landward.

2. *The Coffs Harbour Coastal Zone Management Plan be referred to the Minister for Environment for certification under section 55G of the Coastal Protection Act.*
3. *A further report be presented to Council regarding resource requirements for the amendment of Council's planning framework to support the implementation of the Coastal Zone Management Plan.*
4. *Council note that until such time as the Coffs Harbour Coastal Zone Management Plan is certified by the Minister and the provisions of the Coffs Harbour Coastal Zone Management Plan are incorporated into Council's planning framework, the development related provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Plan are unable to be utilised in Council's Development Assessment processes.*

Council will need to undertake a planning proposal to incorporate the appropriate CZMP provisions into draft LEP 2013 and subsequently amend draft DCP 2013. This will be undertaken separately to this exercise.

This section of the new Component D3 simply references the Coastal Processes and Hazard Definitions Study 2010 and requires compliance with Council's existing Coastal Hazard Zone policy.

• **On-site Renewable Energy Generation**

Council, at its Ordinary Meeting held on 14 February 2013 (NOM13/3) resolved that *"the use of autonomous power systems be considered acceptable for suitable subdivision situations"*.

This relates to the provision of power to newly subdivided allotments with on-site renewable energy generation as an alternative to grid electricity. This would potentially mean that these properties would not be connected to grid electricity.

Council's DCPs generally require new dwellings on subdivided lots to have electricity available. The reasoning behind the requirement for mains power is so that further subdivision and development can occur, ie as one house gets hooked up to the grid, the next can follow. While this is generally logical and appropriate in the majority of cases, there are certain situations where the use of on-site renewable energy generation, such as solar or wind power, should be considered as equally suitable. Examples include areas which are unlikely to have further development adjoin in the future, such as properties at the end of a road, adjoining steep lands or adjoining public land such as State Forest or National Park.

DCP 2013 carries the "utility services" controls over into the Subdivision Component (Component B1) of the document (B1.2.2) (within Attachment 3). The amendment introduces controls allowing on-site renewable energy generation in certain situations, such as those mentioned above. On-site renewable energy generation systems would only be considered appropriate where the applicant provides supporting information that the particular site is suited to such a system.

- **Minor Amendments to Various Components of draft DCP 2013**

The introduction of two new components to draft DCP 2013 will necessitate amendments to other components of the document i.e. document footers in all components and additions to the matrix (contained in Component A1, refer Attachment 3).

Minor amendments including typographical errors and clarification of the wording of some existing controls in Parts B and C of the draft DCP have also been undertaken to provide for a more consistent application of the development controls within the document (Attachment 3).

The components relating to waste management (Component C7) and design requirements (Component C1) have also been refined to clarify controls relating to rubbish bin dimensions, cut and fill allowances as well as consolidation of allotments.

Minor administrative amendments have also been identified as necessary in some components of Part E (locality based components) of the draft DCP (Attachment 3). These amendments relate to the phrasing of some of the planning strategies in Components E2, E3, E5, E7, E8, E9, E10, E12 and E14. These amendments do not affect the operation of the draft DCP.

An anomaly was recently identified in the matters for consideration (planning controls) of Component E10 (South Coffs) (Attachment 3) that relate to noise and air quality (E10.2.2(l)(iii)). The paragraph stating "*No additional dwellings or other residential accommodation are to be constructed within 400 metres of the Coffs Coast Resource Recovery Facility's area of operation*" should be deleted as the issue was addressed during the rezoning of the land for residential purposes.

Note that Component E15 is not included in the current report to Council. It will be held until the completion of the exhibition for the Planning Proposal for Dress Circle, Coffs Harbour and reported to Council at that time.

Sustainability Assessment:

- **Environment**

The Contaminated Land Management Component of the DCP includes provisions to ensure the remediation of contaminated land is undertaken in an environmentally sustainable manner, minimising risks to the environment.

The Flooding and Coastal Hazards Component of the DCP will ensure that the development of land that is subject to flooding or coastal hazards is also done in an environmentally sustainable manner, minimising risks to the environment, while also potentially protecting personal property.

The use of on-site renewable energy generation systems provides for a more sustainable lifestyle and lessens the reliance on grid electricity and its associated fossil fuel dependency.

- **Social**

The Contaminated Land Management Component of the DCP includes provisions to ensure the remediation of contaminated land is undertaken in a socially responsible manner, minimising risks to human health from both identified contamination and during remedial actions.

The Flooding and Coastal Hazards Component of the DCP will ensure that the development of land that is subject to flooding or coastal hazards is also done in a socially responsible manner, minimising risks to human life and personal property.

The DCP components will engender more transparency to prospective purchasers of land, property owners, developers and the general community.

- **Civic Leadership**

The purpose of Council strategic planning documents is to ensure transparency and accountability in local government. Their implementation enables Council to identify and respond to community issues and concerns. This is consistent with the *Coffs Harbour 2030 Community Strategic Plan* strategy *LC2.2.1: Enable and support all levels of government to serve the local community*.

- **Economic**

Broader Economic Implications

There are no broad economic impacts associated with the implementation of the recommendations.

Delivery Program/Operational Plan Implications

The ongoing development and review of Council policies and plans are accommodated within Council's budget structure. This expenditure is monitored through Council's monthly and quarterly budget reviews.

Consultation:

The above-mentioned additions and amendments to draft DCP 2013 have been publicly exhibited for a period of 42 days, from 22 May 2013 to 3 July 2013. The exhibition of these documents was held concurrently with the exhibition of the draft Contaminated Land Management policy. No submissions were received.

Related Policy and / or Precedents:

As mentioned above, the results of the exhibition of the draft Contaminated Land Management Policy has been reported separately to the Council meeting of 8 August 2013.

In addition to the new component relating to flooding and coastal hazards, Council's Floodplain Development and Management Policy will remain in place, as will Council's existing Coastal Hazard Zone Policy.

Statutory Requirements:

- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979);
- Contaminated Land Management Act (1997);
- NSW Coastal Protection Act (1979);
- Protection of the Environment Operations Act (1997) and associated regulations;
- Local Government Act (1993); and
- State Environmental Planning Policy No. 55 – Remediation of Land.

Issues:

Component E15 (Tourist Development Precincts) contains changes that have been exhibited with the other above-mentioned components. However, Component E15 also covers land which is affected by the Dress Circle Planning Proposal, as reported to Council on 11 July 2013 and currently on exhibition.

For this reason, Component E15 is being held to report to Council at a future date at the close of both exhibition periods, to ensure that all issues are addressed at the one time.

Implementation Date / Priority:

The additional DCP components and amendments will be included with the DCP documentation, which will come into effect once the principle Local Environmental Plan is made by the Minister for Planning.

Recommendation:

1. **Adopt Component D2 Contaminated Land Management (Attachment 1), being an additional component to Coffs Harbour Development Control Plan 2013.**
2. **Adopt Component D3 Flooding and Coastal Hazards (Attachment 2), being an additional component to Coffs Harbour Development Control Plan 2013.**
3. **Adopt the provisions for autonomous (or on-site renewable) energy generation within Component B1, along with minor amendments to other components: A1, B2, C1, C2, C7, C8, E2, E3, E5, E7, E8, E9, E10, E11, E12, E13 and E14 (Attachment 3).**
4. **That a further report, jointly addressing Component E15 Tourist Development Precincts and the Dress Circle Planning Proposal (PP_2013_Coffs_001_00), be presented to Council.**

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT

Applies to

All land in the Coffs Harbour local government area.

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

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Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides the relevant requirements for the management of land contamination in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

D2.1 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT

Council must consider whether land is contaminated when assessing a development application.

If the land is contaminated, Council must be satisfied that the land is suitable in its contaminated state (or will be suitable, after remediation) for the purpose for which the development is proposed to be carried out. If the land requires remediation (to be made suitable for any purpose for which the development is proposed to be carried out), Council must be satisfied that the land will be so remediated before the land is used for that purpose.

This component provides details of the information to be supplied to Council during the development application process.

DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B3 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B4 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B6 POST EUROPEAN HERITAGE REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B7 BIODIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

PART C - ISSUE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

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COMPONENT C2 ACCESS, PARKING AND SERVICING REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C3 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C4 ADVERTISING SIGNS REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C5 SEX SERVICES PREMISES REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C6 MINOR EARTHWORKS REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C8 INTEGRATED (NATURAL) WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART D - HAZARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

COMPONENT D1 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

COMPONENT E1 COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL AIRPORT
COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK
COMPONENT E3 COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE
COMPONENT E4 HEARNES LAKE / SANDY BEACH
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COMPONENT E10 SOUTH COFFS
COMPONENT E11 WEST COFFS
COMPONENT E12 WEST WOOLGOOLGA
COMPONENT E13 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
COMPONENT E14 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
COMPONENT E15 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 1

D2.1.1 Objectives

1. To ensure that the likelihood of land contamination is considered as early as possible in the planning and development process.
2. To ensure that changes in land use will not increase the risk to health or the environment.
3. To ensure that site investigations and remediation works are carried out in a satisfactory manner, and where appropriate, are independently verified by site audits.

D2.1.2 Controls

a) General

- i) Development of land that is suspected to be potentially contaminated is to be undertaken in accordance with Coffs Harbour City Council's [Contaminated Land Management Policy](#). Specific requirements for development applications are outlined in (b)-(e) below:

b) Preliminary Site Contamination Investigation

- i) Council will require a preliminary investigation (referred to as an Initial Site Investigation in s.2 NSW EPA Guidelines for Assessing Banana Plantation Sites, 1997) be submitted with development applications for subdivision and/or residential accommodation where past and/or present banana growing land is identified on all or part of the land.

Note: Council will conduct an initial evaluation as part of the development assessment process to determine whether contamination is an issue, and whether sufficient information is available for Council to carry out its planning functions in good faith.

The initial evaluation will be based on readily available factual information provided by the applicant and information available to Council such as previous investigations about contamination on the land, previous zoning and uses of the subject land, and restrictions relating to possible contamination such as notices issued by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

An initial evaluation must be carried out regardless of the nature of the proposed use or any current use. The onus is on the proponent to ensure that the information included in any planning proposal/development application is sufficient to enable Council to make a decision.

- ii) Where contaminating activities are suspected to have or have had the potential to impact upon land proposed to be developed, sampling and analysis is likely to be required to confirm and support any conclusion reached from the site history appraisal.

Note: Refer to the draft Contaminated Land Management Policy, especially Section 7, with regard to Councils Records and Community Information.

- iii) The preliminary site contamination investigation shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Guidelines made or approved by the NSW EPA in accordance with the Contaminated Land Management (CLM) Act. The proponent is responsible for engaging a suitably qualified consultant to undertake the preliminary site contamination investigation. In addition, the proponent is responsible for all costs borne in engaging the consultant (and site auditor, if requested by Council).

Note: If Council is satisfied that the preliminary site contamination investigation justifiably concludes that the site is suitable for the proposed use, then Council will not require any further investigations to be conducted.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 1

c) Detailed Site Contamination Investigation Requirements

- i) Council will require a detailed site investigation to be undertaken when the results of the preliminary investigation demonstrate the potential for, or existence of, contamination which may render the proposed use of the land unsuitable; or where Council is not satisfied with the content or completeness of the Stage 1 investigation. In some cases Stage 1 and Stage 2 investigations may be combined where the land is known to contain or has contained a potentially contaminating activity.
- ii) The detailed site contamination investigation shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Guidelines made or approved by NSW EPA in accordance with the CLM Act. The proponent is responsible for engaging a suitably qualified consultant to undertake the investigation, and for all costs borne in this engagement.
- iii) The detailed site contamination investigation should include a statement which describes whether the site is suitable for the proposed use, or if remediation is necessary to make the site suitable for the proposed use. If remediation is required, the report is to list the feasible remediation options available to remediate the site.

d) Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Requirements

- i) Council will require the submission of a RAP if the detailed investigation concludes that the land is not suitable for the proposed use in its present state. Prior to determining the development application, Council must be satisfied that remedial measures have been, or will be, undertaken in accordance with the submitted RAP to make the site suitable for its proposed use. The RAP shall be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Guidelines made or approved by NSW EPA in accordance with the CLM Act.

e) Validation and Monitoring Report Requirements

- i) Council will require a validation and monitoring report to be submitted after remediation works have been completed, and prior to the commencement of any construction works.

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARDS

Applies to

Proposed development on any land in the Coffs Harbour local government area that is subject to potential coastal hazard impacts and/or potentially flood prone land.

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

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Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides the relevant requirements for the development of land in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area that is subject to potential coastal hazard impacts and/or potentially flood prone land.

D3.1 FLOODING

The Great Dividing Range passes very close to the coast in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (LGA). With the proximity of the coastal ranges to the ocean, the coastal plain has no major river systems, but there are numerous small creek systems. Overall there are 16 major coastal creeks plus the inland waterways of the Bobo River, Little Nymboida River, Bucca Creek and Orara River. Flooding is therefore an important consideration in development on the numerous floodplains within the LGA.

Council's flood policy and Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans have been developed in line with the [NSW Government's Floodplain Development Manual 2005](#) and [Flood Prone Land Policy](#).

DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
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PART C - ISSUE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

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COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
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PART D - HAZARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

COMPONENT D1 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

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COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK
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COMPONENT E15 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 2

D3.1.1 Objectives

1. To reduce the impact of flooding and flood liability on individual owners and occupiers of flood-prone property.
2. To reduce private and public losses resulting from floods, utilising ecologically positive methods wherever possible.
3. To minimise the effects of development on flooding in natural water courses.

To achieve these objectives, Council encourages a broad risk management hierarchy of:

- avoidance of flood risk;
- minimisation of flood risk using appropriate planning controls; and
- flood risk mitigation.

Avoidance and minimisation of flood risk are the options encouraged in all instances. This is managed primarily through land use planning and development control for implementation. Flood risk mitigation is the least preferred option, being reactive, costly and most likely to adversely affect the natural environment.

The flooding controls listed in this component of the DCP do not apply if it can be demonstrated that the subject site is not potentially flood prone.

D3.1.2 Controls

Development of flood prone lands is to be undertaken in accordance with Coffs Harbour City Council's [Floodplain Development and Management Policy](#), as well as flood controls in Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans developed for individual catchments such as the [Coffs Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study](#) (where appropriate).

D3.2 COASTAL HAZARD ZONE

The [Coastal Processes and Hazards Definition Study](#) undertaken in 2010 has been prepared in accordance with the procedures in the NSW Government's [Coastline Management Manual \(1990\)](#), and the [Guidelines for Preparing Coastal Zone Management Plans](#). The study also accords with both the [NSW Coastal Policy 1997](#) and provisions of Part 4A of the [Coastal Protection Act 1979](#).

The [Coastal Processes and Hazards Definition Study](#) is the formal starting point of the coastal management plan, and involves a comprehensive technical assessment of the processes that could affect the coastal area.

D3.2.1 Objectives

1. To reduce the impact of coastal hazards on individual owners and occupiers within the Coffs Harbour LGA.
2. To ensure that knowledge of coastal hazards guides the location and design of future development along the Coffs Harbour LGA coastline.
3. To provide development controls that seek to minimise the damage potential to existing and proposed developments posed by specific coastline threats.

D3.2.2 Controls

Areas identified as being at risk within the [Coastal Processes and Hazards Definition Study](#) 2010 are to comply with the provisions of Council's Coastal Hazard Zone policy.

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION

Applies to

All land in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon making of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides the detailed statutory and preliminary information related to the operation of the Coffs Harbour Development Control Plan.

A1.1 INTRODUCTION

This Plan has been prepared in accordance with the [Environmental Planning and Assessment \(EP&A\) Act 1979](#) and the [EP&A Regulation 2000](#).

This Development Control Plan (DCP) supports the provisions of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 (LEP 2013).

This DCP is divided into the following parts:

- Part A – Introductory Information;
- Part B – Land Use Specific Information;
- Part C – Issue Specific Information;
- Part D – Hazard Management Information;
- Part E – Locality Based Special Information; and
- Part F – Glossary and Appendix.

DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

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COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
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COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

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COMPONENT E14 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS
COMPONENT E15

PART F – GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

This DCP proposes to:

- expand upon the aims, objectives and other provisions of LEP 2013; and
- provide detailed development provisions for development within the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (LGA).

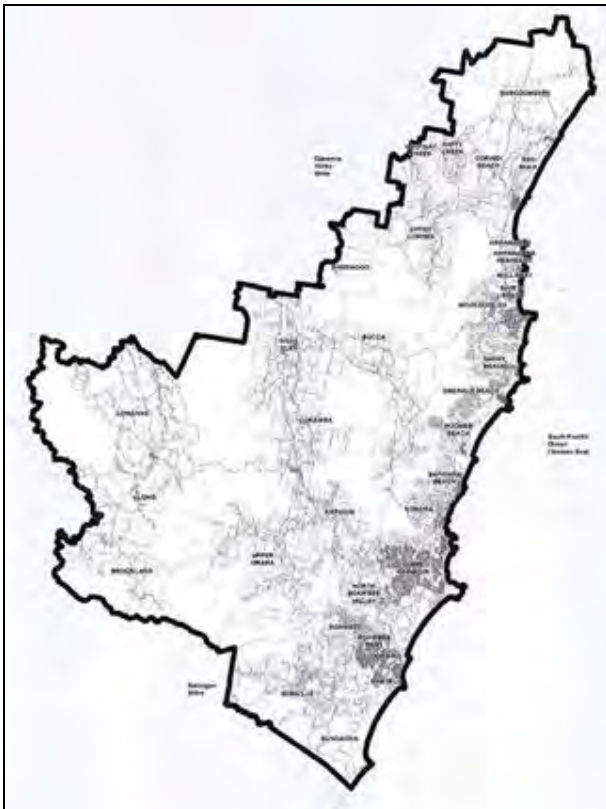
This DCP is based on objectives and development provisions (controls) relating to the achievement of each objective.

This DCP repeals any other DCP made before this DCP.

A1.2 LAND COVERED BY THIS DCP

This DCP applies to all land in the Coffs Harbour LGA and relates to LEP 2013 (as shown in Map 1).

MAP 1



A1.3 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STATE AND LOCAL PLANNING STRATEGIES

The following diagram shows the hierarchy of State and local planning strategies:



A1.4 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COUNCIL AND STATE POLICY DOCUMENTS

Certain developments may be subject to other [policies](#) of Council. The onus is on any prospective applicant to check with the Consent Authority if there are any additional or updated policies relevant to the site.

Certain development may also be subject to [State Environmental Planning Policies \(SEPP\)](#), refer Part F - Appendix 1 of this DCP. Applicants are advised to check which SEPPs may be applicable to their proposed development.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

Information Sheets, refer Council's website, provide information and guidelines for applicants on various issues. Some provide additional information on environmental constraints to development and procedures for applicants to follow if their proposal is affected by such constraints.

A1.5 REFERENCE TO EXTERNAL STANDARDS AND DOCUMENTS

Throughout this document there are references to external documents and standards. These include, but are not limited to Australian and New Zealand Standards, AUSPEC specifications and standard drawings. This reference means the current version of that standard or specification.

This DCP provides hyperlinks to various Australian and New Zealand Standards; these are external documents; and in order to view many of these Standards you will be required to purchase a copy of them.

A1.6 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

This Plan adopts the terms and definitions of LEP 2013. Additional terms may be defined throughout this Plan and in Part F - Glossary.

A1.7 HOW TO USE THIS DCP

Applicants are to comply with the controls listed in this DCP unless it can be demonstrated that an alternative solution to all, or any, of the controls will provide for an equivalent or better response to meeting the objectives of this DCP. Any alternative solution must be justified with valid planning reasons.

A1.8 KEY OBJECTIVES OF THIS DCP

A1.8.1 Environmental Sustainability

1. To ensure that development responds appropriately to environmental constraints including soil erosion, coastal hazards, flooding and bush fire risk, and that the protection of areas of natural and cultural significance are considered.
2. To ensure that development incorporates best practice water sensitive urban design techniques relating to stormwater quality and quantity, water conservation/reuse and ecosystem health.
3. To ensure that development protects and maintains high value vegetation, natural bushland, native habitats and koala populations.
4. To encourage development that is energy efficient and minimises greenhouse gas emissions.
5. To exclude urban development from areas with a high water table where there is likely to be adverse impacts on water quality.
6. To incorporate environmental protection areas into the Coffs Coast Regional Park where practicable.
7. To conserve the environmental heritage of the City in accordance with the principles of the Burra Charter.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

A1.8.2 Social Sustainability

1. To provide safe and attractive neighbourhoods that meet the diverse needs of the community and offer a wide choice of housing and leisure opportunities, as well as associated community facilities.
2. To improve the accessibility of public transport services and to provide infrastructure to encourage walking and cycling, to lessen the dependence on cars.
3. To ensure that developers provide bus shelters so that all new residential areas are no further than 500 metres from the nearest shelter.
4. To ensure that developers provide children's playgrounds so that all new residential areas are no further than 500 metres from the nearest facility.
5. To manage open space areas and community land in accordance with the relevant Plan of Management for that area.

A1.8.3 Civic Leadership

1. To ensure that development is consistent with the principles of the [Coffs Harbour 2030 Community Strategic Plan](#).
2. To ensure that development assessment is transparent, consistent and accountable.

A1.8.4 Economic Sustainability

1. To ensure that the existing community is not burdened by the provision of public utilities and facilities required as a result of future development.

2. To ensure development contributes to the economic growth of the City and provides local employment opportunities.
3. To ensure water and sewerage facilities are provided in a timely manner in accordance with Coffs Harbour's adopted water and sewerage strategies.
4. To require developers to forward fund any works required ahead of Council's [Developer Servicing Plans](#).
5. To ensure that business development supports the Commercial Core as the primary business district of Coffs Harbour.
6. To ensure that business development is consistent with Coffs Harbour City Council's [Business Centres Hierarchy Review](#).

A1.9 MATRIX – WHICH SECTIONS OF THIS DCP WILL APPLY TO MY PROPOSAL?

The following matrix outlines the sections of this DCP applying to the various types of development.

This list is not an 'absolute' list of applicable components. Some land use activities may introduce issues covered elsewhere in this document, or in external documents/standards. It is recommended to seek professional advice in regard to any proposed development.

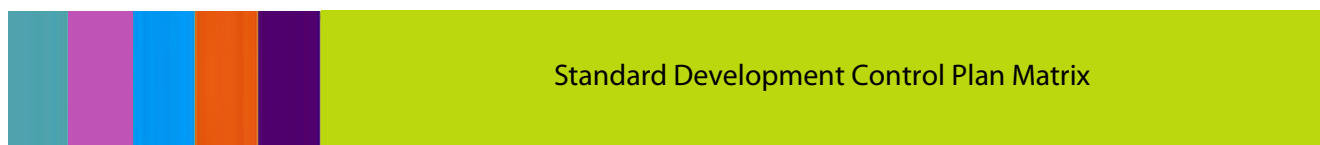
Which Components of this DCP will apply to my Development Proposal?

- ✓ This component will apply to the development proposal and should be consulted
- ? This component may apply to the development proposal. You should check whether the issues raised in this component are relevant for your proposal.

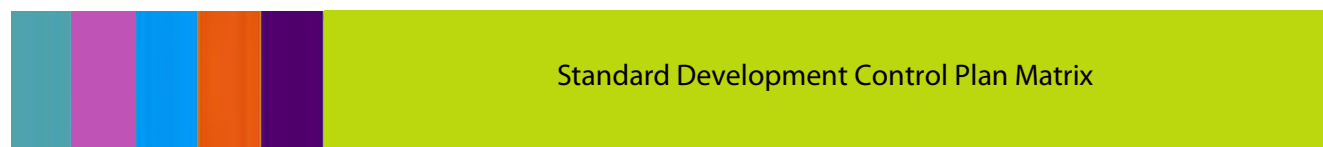
The locality based components in Part E of the Development Control Plan may apply, and should be consulted if the development proposal or activity is located on lands within the following areas:

- Component E1 – Airport (Deferred to enable Council to revise the Airport Masterplan);
- Component E2 - Boambee Creek;
- Component E3 - Coffs Harbour City Plan;
- Component E4 - Hearnese Lake / Sandy Beach (Deferred to enable environmental studies to be completed);
- Component E5 - Korora Rural Residential;
- Component E6 – Moonee (Deferred to enable environmental studies to be completed);
- Component E7 - North Boambee Valley;
- Component E8 - North Bonville;
- Component E9 - Sawtell Town Centre;
- Component E10 - South Coffs;
- Component E11 - West Coffs;
- Component E12 - West Woolgoolga;
- Component E13 - 20m Highway Setback;
- Component E14 – Halls Road Business Precinct; and
- Component E15 – Tourist Development Precincts.

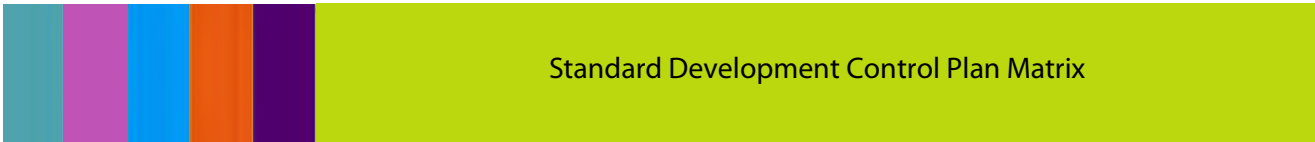
LAND USE	A1 - Introduction	A2 - Notification	B1 - Subdivision	B2 - Residential	B3 - Commercial	B4 - Industrial	B5 - Rural	B6 - Post European Heritage	B7 - Biodiversity	C1 - Design Requirements	C2 - Access, Parking & Servicing	C3 - Landscaping	C4 - Advertising & Signage	C5 - Sex Services Premises	C6 - Minor Earthworks	C7 - Waste management	C8 – Integrated Water Cycle M'gmt	D1 - Erosion and Sediment Control	D2 – Contaminated Land Management	D3 – Flooding and Coastal Hazards
advertisement	✓	✓						?		?			✓							
advertising structure	✓	✓						?	?	?			✓		?			?		?
agricultural produce industry	✓	✓					✓	?	?		✓	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
agriculture	✓	✓					✓		?						?		?	✓		
air transport facility	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓			?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
airport	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	?		?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
airstrip	✓	✓				?	?	?	?		✓		?		?			?	?	?
amusement centre	✓	✓			?			?		?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
animal boarding or training est.	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	✓	✓	?	?



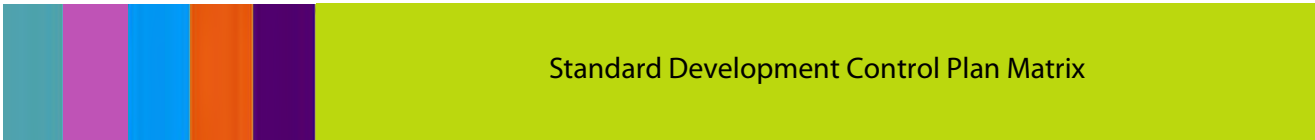
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aquaculture	✓	✓					✓	?	?		?		?		?	?	✓	?		
attached dwelling	✓	✓	?	✓				?	?	✓	✓	✓			?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
backpackers' accommodation	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
bed and breakfast accommodation	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
bee keeping	✓	✓					?	?	?						?			?		?
biosolids treatment facility	✓	✓				?	?	?	?		?	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
boarding house	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	✓	✓	✓	?		?	✓	✓	?	?	?
boat launching ramp	✓	✓					?	?	?		?		?		?		?	?		?
boat building and repair facility	✓	✓				✓		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
boat shed	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?		?	?	?	?
bulky goods premises	✓	✓			✓			?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
business identification sign	✓	✓			?			?		?			✓							
business premises	✓	✓			✓			?	?	?	✓	?	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
camping ground	✓	✓		?			?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
car park	✓	✓			✓			?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?		?	✓		?
caravan park	✓	✓					?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	?		?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
cellar door premises	✓	✓			?		?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
cemetery	✓	✓					✓	?	?		✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
charter and tourism boating facility	✓	✓				?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
child care centre	✓	✓		?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
commercial premises	✓	✓			✓			?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
community facility	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
correctional centre	✓	✓				?		?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
crematorium	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
dairy	✓	✓					✓	?	?		?		?		?	✓	?	?		?
depot	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?



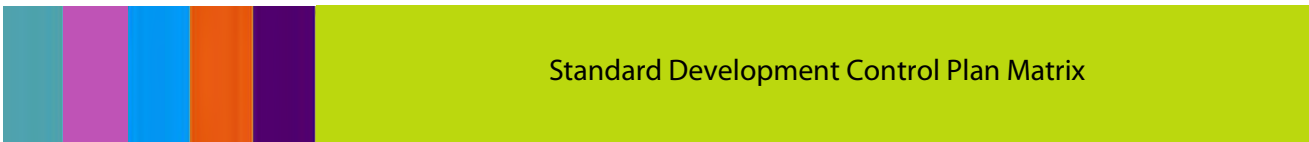
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dual occupancy	✓	✓	?	✓			?	?	?	✓	✓	✓			?	✓	?	✓	?	?
dwelling	✓	✓		✓	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?			?	✓	?	✓	?	?
earthworks	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?						✓			✓	?	?
educational establishment	✓	✓		?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
electricity generating works	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
emergency services facility	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
entertainment facility	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
environmental facility	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
environmental protection works	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?						?		?	?	?	?
exhibition home	✓	✓		✓				?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
exhibition village	✓	✓		✓				?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
extractive industry	✓	✓			?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
farm building	✓	✓					✓	?	?			?			?			?	?	?
farm stay accommodation	✓	✓		?			?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
feedlot	✓	✓					✓	?	?		?	?	?		?	?	?	?		?
flood mitigation work	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?						?		?	?	?	✓
food and drink premises	✓	✓			?			?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
forestry	✓	✓					?	?	?						?		?	?		
freight transport facility	✓	✓				?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
function centre	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
funeral chapel	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
funeral home	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
garden centre	✓	✓			?			?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
group home (permanent or transitional)	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
hardware and building supplies	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?



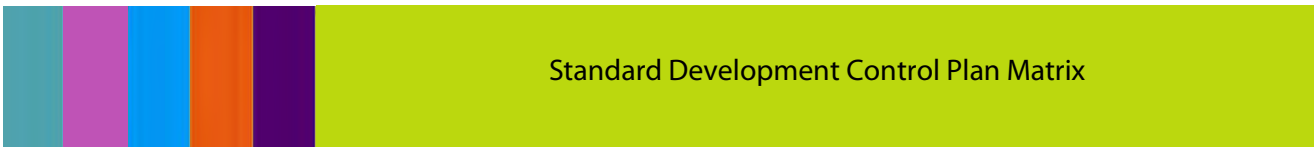
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hazardous industry or storage est.	✓	✓				✓		?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
health services consulting rooms or facility	✓	✓		?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
helipad	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?						?	?	?	✓		
highway service centre	✓	✓			?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
home business	✓	✓		?		?	?				?		?			?				
home occupation (sex services)	✓	✓			?	?							?	?						
horticulture	✓	✓					✓	?	?		?		?		?	?	?	✓		?
hospital	✓	✓		?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
hostel	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
hotel or motel accommodation	✓	✓		?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
Industry	✓	✓				?		?	?	✓	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
industrial retail outlet	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	✓	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
industrial training facility	✓	✓			?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
information and education facility	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
intensive livestock agriculture	✓	✓					✓	?	?		?	?	?		?	✓	?	✓		?
jetty	✓	✓				?	?	?	✓	?					?			?		?
kiosk	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
landscaping material supplies	✓	✓			?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
liquid fuel depot	✓	✓				?		?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
livestock processing industry	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
marina	✓	✓				?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	✓		?
market	✓	✓		?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓		?	?	?
medical centre	✓	✓		?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
mine	✓	✓			?	?	?	?	?			?	?		?		?	✓	?	?
mooring	✓	✓				?	?	?	?		?	?	?		?	✓	?	?		?
mooring pens	✓	✓				?		?	?		?		?					?		?



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mortuary	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
multi-dwelling housing	✓	✓		✓	?			?	?	✓	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
neighbourhood shop	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	✓		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
offensive industry or storage est.	✓	✓				✓		?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
office premises	✓	✓			✓			?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
open cut mining	✓	✓				?	?	?	?		?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
passenger transport facility	✓	✓		?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	✓		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
place of public worship	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
plant nursery	✓	✓			?		?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
port facilities	✓	✓				?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	✓		?
pub	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
public administration building	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
public utility undertaking	✓	✓	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
recreation area or facility	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
registered club	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
research station	✓	✓			?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
residential care facility	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	✓	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
residential flat building	✓	✓		✓	?			?	?	✓	✓	✓			?	✓	✓	✓	?	?
resource recovery facility	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
respite day care centre	✓	✓		?	?		?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
restaurant or cafe	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
restricted premises	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
retail premises	✓	✓			✓			?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
road	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?			?		?	✓	?	?
roadside stall	✓	✓		?	?			?	?		✓	?	?		?	?	✓	?		



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rural industry	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
rural supplies	✓	✓			?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
sawmill or log processing works	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
school	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
secondary dwelling	✓	✓		✓				?	?	?	✓	?			?	✓	?	?	?	?
self-storage units	✓	✓			?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	✓		?	?	✓	✓	?	?
semi-detached dwelling	✓	✓		✓				?	?	?	✓	?			?	✓	?	?	?	?
seniors housing	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	?	✓	✓	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
service station	✓	✓		?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
sewage treatment plant	✓	✓				?	?	?	?		?	?			?	✓	?	✓	?	?
sex services premises	✓	✓			?	?		?	?		✓	✓	?	✓	?	?	?	?	?	?
shop	✓	✓			✓			?	?	?	✓	?	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
shop top housing	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	✓	✓	?	✓		?	✓	?	?	?	?
stock and sale yard	✓	✓				?	?	?	?		✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓		?
storage premises	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓		?	?	?	✓	?	?
subdivision	✓	✓	✓	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?		?			?	?	?
take away food and drink premises	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
telecommunication s facility & network	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
temporary structure	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
timber yard	✓	✓			?	?		?	?		✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
tourist and visitor accommodation	✓	✓		?	?			?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	?	?	?
transport depot	✓	✓				✓		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
truck depot	✓	✓				✓		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
turf farming	✓	✓					✓	?	?				?		?	?	?	✓		
underground mining	✓	✓				?	?	?	?		?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
vehicle body repair workshop	✓	✓				✓		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
vehicle repair	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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LAND USE	A1 - Introduction	A2 - Notification	B1 - Subdivision	B2 - Residential	B3 - Commercial	B4 - Industrial	B5 - Rural	B6 - Post European Heritage	B7 - Biodiversity	C1 - Design Requirements	C2 - Access, Parking & Servicing	C3 - Landscaping	C4 - Advertising & Signage	C5 - Sex Services Premises	C6 - Minor Earthworks	C7 - Waste management	C8 – Integrated Water Cycle M'gmt	D1 - Erosion and Sediment Control	D2 – Contaminated Land Management	D3 – Flooding and Coastal Hazards
station																				
vehicle sales or hire premises	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	✓	✓		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
veterinary hospital	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
warehouse or distribution centre	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
waste disposal facility	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
waste or resource transfer station	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
waste / resource management facility	✓	✓				✓	?		✓	?	✓	?	?		?	✓	?	✓	?	?
water recreation structure	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?
water recycling facility	✓	✓				?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?
water storage facility	✓	✓		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?			?	?	?	?	?	?
wharf or boating facilities	✓	✓				?		?	?	?	?	?	?		?	?	?	✓		?
wholesale supplies	✓	✓			?	?		?	?	?	✓	?	?		?	?	?	?	?	?

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS

Applies to

All land in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area that is subject to a development application for subdivision

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon making of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides the requirements and design details for subdivision in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

B1.1 DENSITY

B1.1.1 Objective

1. To ensure that lots have sufficient area to allow for the placement of structures, anticipated site activities and the provision of infrastructure.

B1.1.2 Controls

a) Residential R1, R2, R3 R4 and R5 Zones

- i) Where small lots (smaller than existing lots located in the neighbourhood) are proposed, applications are to include details for subdivision and housing, with housing to commence before the Subdivision Certificate is issued.
- ii) The lot area calculation shall not include the area of a “right-of-carriageway” or private road.

DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

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COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

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COMPONENT E8 NORTH BONVILLE
COMPONENT E9 SAWTELL VILLAGE PRECINCT
COMPONENT E10 SOUTH COFFS
COMPONENT E11 WEST COFFS
COMPONENT E12 WEST WOOLGOOLGA
COMPONENT E13 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
COMPONENT E14 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
COMPONENT E15 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F – GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

b) Business, Industrial, Special Use and Open Space Zones

- i) The lot size should provide sufficient space to accommodate the land use, buildings, make allowance for possible future expansion while the site functions properly and efficiently in terms of the following:
 - safe ingress and egress;
 - vehicular movement within the site and its curtilage;
 - parking and loading/unloading activities;
 - storage and waste/bin areas;
 - boundary setback requirements; and
 - landscaped areas.
- ii) Industrial subdivisions should provide for lot frontages of no less than 20 metres, with the average area of lots within the subdivision being 1,000m².

c) Land Comprising Two or More Zones

- i) Where land is partly zoned E2 Environmental Conservation, lots created must contain an adequate building envelope outside the E2 zone. The proposal must achieve the long-term management of the environmental protection area.
- ii) The number of allotments containing two or more zones included in a subdivision proposal is to be minimised.
- iii) Development Applications (DA) for subdivision involving land in two or more zones (E2/R2 and/or E2/R5 zones) are to include a report prepared by a suitably qualified professional that addresses biodiversity issues relating to the potential fragmentation of E2 zoned lands.
- iv) The E2 zoned area is not to exceed 40% of the lot area.

B1.2 INFRASTRUCTURE

B1.2.1 Objective

- 1. To ensure appropriate infrastructure is provided to lots within a subdivision.
- 2. To implement ‘best practice’ stormwater management techniques.
- 3. To ensure that subdivisions are provided with adequate utility services.
- 4. To enable the use of on-site renewable energy systems in lieu of grid electricity connection under particular circumstances.

B1.2.2 Controls

a) Infrastructure in Urban Areas

- i) Subdivisions in urban areas are required to provide the following infrastructure:
 - road;
 - footpath;
 - kerb and gutter;
 - drainage;
 - reticulated sewer and water;
 - telecommunications (including National Broadband Network);
 - street lighting; and
 - electricity.
- ii) If access is via a lane, the lane is to be constructed full width from at least one street, kerbed and guttered on one side of the road and contain adequate stormwater drainage provisions.
- iii) Where reticulated sewerage is not available, effluent is required to be contained, treated and disposed of within the subject site. Applications for such subdivisions must be accompanied by an onsite effluent disposal report prepared in accordance with Council’s [On-site Sewer Management Strategy](#).

b) Infrastructure in Rural RU2 Rural Landscape Areas and R5 Large Lot Residential Areas

- i) Subdivision of Large Lot Residential areas (R5 zone) are to provide the following:
 - road and drainage incorporating concrete kerb and gutter or concrete edging;
 - sealed driveways to hatchet shaped lots where shared; and
 - electricity, telephone and National Broadband Network.
- ii) Subdivisions in Rural (RU2 zone) and Large Lot Residential (R5 zone) areas may be accessed by a right-of-carriageway.
- iii) Applications for rural and large lot residential subdivisions must be accompanied by an onsite effluent disposal report prepared in accordance with Council’s [On-site Sewer Management Strategy](#).
- iv) The disposal of effluent on new lots utilising pump-out systems is prohibited.

c) Stormwater Drainage

- i) Stormwater drainage shall be designed and provided in accordance with Council’s [Development Design and Construction Specification](#).
- ii) Prior to drainage works commencing, detailed designs are to be provided to Council for approval. Concept details are to be provided with a DA.
- iii) Stormwater is to be gravity drained to Council’s drainage system.
- iv) In some circumstances, inter-allotment drainage easements over downstream properties may be required. This will necessitate a letter of consent from the owner(s) of the downstream properties to be submitted with the DA.

- v) Drainage from sites should reflect the pre-existing or natural situation in terms of location, quantity, quality and velocity of water.
- vi) Council may require on-site detention.

d) Utility Services

- i) Separate water meters are to be provided when strata-subdividing existing dwellings or units.
- ii) Utility services must be extended to all lots in accordance with Table 1 (except for common property in Community Title and Strata Subdivisions).

TABLE 1 – UTILITY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

Utility Services	Urban Area	Large Lot Residential (R5) Area	Rural Area
Telephone	Yes*	Yes*	Yes
National Broadband Network	Yes*	Yes*	Yes
Electricity (see (e) below)	Yes*	Yes*	Yes
Council’s Water Main	Yes**	No	No
Council’s Sewer main	Yes**	No	No

* In greenfield subdivisions these services must be underground.
 ** Some urban areas (such as Lowanna, Red Rock and Ulong) do not have reticulated water and/or sewer services. In these areas, these utility services are not required to be provided.



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e) On-site Renewable Energy Generation Systems and Subdivision Proposals on lands zoned RU2 Rural Landscape and R5 Large Lot Residential

- i) The use of on-site renewable energy generation systems as the sole electricity supply for subdivided allotment/s on lands zoned RU2 and R5 will only be considered where the applicant provides supporting information that the particular site is suited to the use of such a system. In this regard, the following qualifying criteria are to be demonstrated:
 - where traditional grid electricity provision is cost prohibitive due to the remote or restrictive (eg. significant vegetation) location of the property; and
 - where the allotment/s is/are located at the “end of the line” of grid electricity in that particular area, so as not to disadvantage other properties located further “up the line”, or compromise future development expansion. Examples include areas which are unlikely to have further development adjoin in the future, including properties at the end of a road, adjoining steep lands or adjoining public land such as State Forest or National Park.
- ii) Where an on-site renewable energy generation system is proposed as the sole electricity supply for a RU2 or a R5 allotment, appropriate arrangements should be made to Council’s satisfaction so that future purchasers of the land are aware that reticulated electricity supply is not connected and the provision of electricity will be at the purchaser’s cost. This is to be by way of an appropriate notification attached to the title of the land.

f) Un-Serviced Residential Zoned Land (R1 and R2 Zones)

- i) Subdivision of un-serviced residential lands will only be considered where the proposal complies with an adopted masterplan for that area. Such subdivision applications will be subject to merit assessment.

B1.3 GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

B1.3.1 Objective

- 1. To encourage subdivision design responsive to the environmental characteristics of a site.

B1.3.2 Controls

- i) A geotechnical report may be required when subdividing steep land.
- ii) The Consent Authority will not favourably consider subdivision, where it requires significant clearing of vegetation to meet required bush fire asset protection zones, access requirements and the like.
- iii) Subdivision in the RU2 Rural Landscape and R5 Large Lot Residential zones must consider:
 - subdivision of escarpments, ridges, and other visually prominent topographical features and sites should be managed to minimise visual impact; and
 - subdivisions are not to negatively impact sustainable agricultural activities. In this regard, buffers shall be provided to ensure that the agricultural potential of the land will not be diminished (see Rural Land Use Conflict Information Sheet).

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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B1.4 COMMUNITY TITLE SUBDIVISION

Community Title Subdivisions must conform to the standards in LEP 2013 and this development control plan.

B1.4.1 Objectives

1. To encourage subdivision that achieves better social, environmental and economic outcomes, not otherwise achieved by conventional subdivision.
2. To provide appropriate access, amenity and siting for all development lots.
3. To ensure that separate private and communal open areas are provided.

B1.4.2 Controls

- i) Individual lots are to be located to form development clusters in order to minimise vegetation clearing (where relevant).
- ii) Internal access ways and driveways are to be designed to clearly indicate their function and provide acceptable levels of access, safety, amenity and convenience for users, as well as catering for vehicle parking. Internal access is to be designed in accordance with Table 2.
- iii) Ingress/egress to individual lots is not to be from a public road.
- iv) Communal open areas are to be distinguished from private open space.

TABLE 2 - INTERNAL ACCESS WAYS FOR COMMUNITY TITLE DEVELOPMENT

	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
Maximum design speed	40km/h	30km/h	20km/h
Minimum carriage width	6m	5.5m low speed entrance treatment	5m
Minimum total access way reserve	10m	8m	8m
Minimum shoulder width	1.5m	1m	1m
Nature strip width	1.5m	No	No
Cul-de-sac design for service vehicles	3 point turn	3 point turn	3 point turn
Kerb and gutter	Yes In Business and Residential zones only	Yes In Business and Residential zones only	Yes

Note:

Type 1 – Minor loop road not exceeding 200m in length.

Type 2 – Minor loop for vehicular and pedestrian use not exceeding 100m in length.

Type 3 – Road for vehicular and pedestrian use not exceeding 50m in length

Community Title Subdivisions that have Private roads that exceed the “Type 1” requirements shall be designed to meet the standards shown in Table 1 for Public Road standards



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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B1.5 LAND DEDICATION IN DEVELOPING AREAS

B1.5.1 Objective

1. To enable the dedication of appropriate land that is reasonably required by Council as a result of subdivision.

B1.5.2 Controls

- i) Dedication of the following lands may be required as a condition of development consent where appropriate and in accordance with the provisions of the EP&A Act 1979:
 - drainage reserves;
 - riparian buffer zones;
 - land containing ecological constraints;
 - land not capable of being developed due to flooding; and
 - land under roads (including Crown Roads required for access to an approved development pursuant to Section 151 – [Roads Act 1993](#)).
- ii) Exceptions to this requirement may include:
 - land required for the provision of community facilities e.g. sporting fields;
 - land required where the owner/ developer will be severely disadvantaged by the land dedication; and
 - larger areas of land required for conservation purposes.

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Applies to

Residential development undertaken on residential land zoned R1, R2, R3, R4 and R5 in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area including associated development

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon making of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides the development controls for residential development throughout the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

Note: This Component should be read in conjunction with any requirements as set out in the localities contained in Part E of this Development Control Plan (DCP).

B2.1 DENSITY

B2.1.1 Objectives

1. To ensure that the density of residential development is appropriate to the scale and character of each location.
2. To ensure that all development provides a variety and choice of dwelling types and sizes where possible.

B2.1.2 Controls

- i) Table 1 below establishes the target densities for each zone:

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COMPONENT E12 WEST WOOLGOOLGA
COMPONENT E13 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
COMPONENT E14 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
COMPONENT E15 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

TABLE 1 – TARGET DENSITIES FOR EACH ZONE

Zone	Dwelling Use / Size	Site Area per Dwelling
R1	Refer to Component E15	
R2	For serviced residential land	1 dwelling/400m ²
	For un-sewered lots (R1 or R2 zone)	1 dwelling per minimum lot size shown on the Lot Size Map.
R3	Small (<55m ²)	1/50m ²
	Medium (55-84m ²)	1/75m ²
	Large (85-125m ²)	1/110m ²
	Extra Large (>125m ²)	1/150m ²
R4	Small (<55m ²)	1/50m ²
	Medium (55-70m ²)	1/60m ²
	Large (>70m ²)	1/80m ²
R5		1 dwelling/per minimum lot size shown on the Lot Size Map

Note:

1. *Not including the area of any access handle or internal driveway.*
 2. *Different density provisions may apply in many other parts of the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (LGA); refer to Part E (area based provisions) for specific density requirements.*
 3. *Density is based on site area per dwelling and/or dwelling size.*
- ii) For dual occupancy development proposed on R2 Low Density Residential zoned lands, the gross floor area (GFA) is not to exceed 40% of the land/allotment area.

B2.2.2 Controls

a) Building Setbacks for all Residential Development

- i) The minimum building setback requirements for residential development are as specified in Table 2.
- ii) Buildings can be built to side and rear boundaries (zero setbacks) in the R1 General Residential, R2 Low Density Residential zone and R3 Medium Density Residential zoned lands where:
 - the building has a maximum boundary wall height of three metres, unless matching an existing or simultaneously constructed wall;
 - there is no adverse impact upon the amenity of the adjoining properties;
 - there is no interruption to overland drainage paths;
 - there are no openings in the boundary wall (see Figure 1 below); and
 - the wall is of masonry construction.

B2.2 BUILDING SETBACKS

B2.2.1 Objectives

1. To create a clear transition between public and private space.
2. To create good quality entry spaces to lobbies, foyers or additional dwelling entrances.
3. To allow an outlook to, and surveillance of, the street.
4. To allow for street landscape character.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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- iii) No buildings, associated or ancillary development are to be located within the 20 metre Pacific Highway Development Setback Area. See Component E13 for further information regarding this requirement, including mapped applicable areas.

FIGURE 1 - ZERO SETBACKS

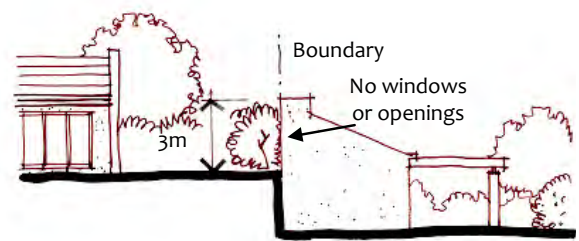


TABLE 2 – MINIMUM BUILDING SETBACKS FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OUTSIDE THE COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE AREA (SEE COMPONENT E3)

Zone	Minimum Front Setback	Minimum Side Setback	Minimum Rear Setback
General Residential (R1)	Refer Component E15	Refer Component E15	Refer Component E15
Low Density Residential (R2)	6m	900mm (from walls) 675mm (to outer edge of roof gutter and eaves)	900mm (from walls) 675mm (to outer edge of roof gutter and eaves)
Medium Density Residential (R3*)	9m Permitted encroachment to 6m for buildings with a height less than 8.5m (i.e. not more than two storeys)	6m Permitted encroachment to 3m for buildings with a height less than 8.5m (i.e. not more than two storeys). Permitted encroachment to 1m for single storey buildings	6m Permitted encroachment to 3m for buildings with a height less than 8.5m (i.e. not more than two storeys). Permitted encroachment to 1m for single storey buildings
Large Lot Residential (R5)	10m	5m	5m

* These setbacks apply to all forms of residential development including dwellings, dual occupancies, residential flat buildings and multi-dwelling housing.

b) Articulation Zone

- i) A dwelling house, other than a dwelling house that has a setback from a primary road of less than three metres, may incorporate an articulation zone to a primary road.
- ii) The following building elements are permitted in an articulation zone:
 - an entry feature or portico;
 - a balcony, deck, patio, pergola, terrace or verandah;
 - a window box treatment;
 - a bay window or similar feature;
 - *an awning or other feature over a window; and
 - **a sun shading feature.

- iii) A building element on a dwelling house (other than a pitched roof to an entry feature or portico that has the same pitch as the roof on the dwelling house) must not extend more than:
 - one metre above the gutter line of the eaves of a single storey dwelling house; or
 - above the gutter line of the eaves of a two storey dwelling house.
- iv) The maximum area of all building elements within the articulation zone, other than a building element listed in subclause (ii)* or ** above, must not be more than 25% of the area of the articulation zone, measured through the horizontal plane of the elements.

Note: The above requirements apply to:

1. A dwelling house or a dual occupancy (a building) and any carport, garage, balcony, deck, patio, pergola, terrace or verandah that is attached to the dwelling house or dual occupancy; and
2. An outbuilding, or alterations and additions to an existing outbuilding (also a building).

B2.3 FRONTAGE WIDTH REQUIREMENTS

B2.3.1 Objective

1. To ensure that the design of residential development provides an appropriate response to the character of the surrounding area.

B2.3.2 Controls

a) Frontage width Requirements for Multi Dwelling Housing Proposals

- i) Proposals for three or more dwellings will only be approved where the frontage of the property is at least 5.5 metres wide. For every additional dwelling over three, the width of the frontage of the property to the street is to be increased by one metre (i.e. four dwellings, frontage of 6.5 metres).

B2.4 PRIVATE OPEN SPACE

B2.4.1 Objective

1. To ensure that residential development provides an adequate amount of functional private open space that is appropriate to the context of the location.

B2.4.2 Controls

- i) Each dwelling is to have private open space with direct connection to indoor living areas through sliding glass doors or other similar openings. This space should ideally be oriented to maximise use.
- ii) Ground level private open space (including swimming pools) is not to be located at the front of a development adjoining a public road, unless details of satisfactory fencing are included with the proposal.

- iii) The positioning of new private open space areas is not to unreasonably compromise the private open space of other nearby dwellings (on the same site or on adjacent properties).
- iv) Private open space within zones R1, R3 and R4 is to be provided at the following rate:

Dwelling Type	Minimum area
<55m ²	8m ²
55-84m ²	10m ²
85-125m ²	12m ²
>125m ²	16m ²

- v) Private open space within zones R1, R3 and R4 is to have a minimum width of two metres.
- vi) Private open space in the R1, R3 and R4 zones can include balconies and terraces.
- vii) Ground level private open space areas, on developments in the R2 zone are to:
 - have a minimum dimension of four metres;
 - a ground slope not greater than one in eight; and
 - provide a minimum of 90m² for each dwelling and be provided in one area. Consideration may be given to the division of this area into two, with the smallest portion being no less than 40m².
- viii) On sites with a slope greater than one in eight where usable private open space cannot be physically provided at ground level, large open decks will be considered as a suitable alternative.

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B2.5 ON-SITE EFFLUENT DISPOSAL

B2.5.1 Objective

1. To ensure that on-site effluent disposal (within non-sewered residential areas) is achieved by appropriate means.

B2.5.2 Controls

- i) Effluent disposal must comply with Council's [On-Site Sewage Management Strategy](#).
- ii) Effluent disposal systems are to be set back 100 metres from permanent waterways and/or 40 metres from gullies or drainage depressions.

B2.6 INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS

B2.6.1 Objective

1. To ensure that necessary infrastructure is provided to support housing in the Coffs Harbour LGA.

B2.6.2 Controls

- i) Where a dual occupancy is proposed (both on vacant land or an addition to an existing dwelling), site frontages are to provide concrete kerb and gutter, as well as a vehicle crossing.
- ii) Where multi-dwelling housing is proposed, site frontages are to provide the following:
 - sealed road pavement;
 - concrete kerb and gutter;
 - concrete footpath;
 - piped stormwater drainage; and
 - if access is to be via a lane, the lane is to be constructed full width from at least one street, kerbed and guttered on one side of the road and contain adequate stormwater drainage provisions.

- iii) Developers will be required to meet all associated costs of upgrading site frontages, upon development of the property.

Note: Construction standards for these works are contained in Council's [Development Design and Construction Specification](#) document.

B2.7 ASSOCIATED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

B2.7.1 Objectives

1. To ensure structures and outbuildings associated with residential development do not dominate the street frontage.
2. To ensure that the appearance of associated residential development is of a high quality and integrates with the streetscape.
3. To ensure associated residential development demonstrates consistent height, bulk and scale with the existing or proposed development in the locality.

B2.7.2 Controls

a) R1, R2, R3 and R4 Zones

Note: Associated residential development includes outbuildings (sheds and the like), garages, carports, fences, walls and swimming pools.

- i) All associated structures and outbuildings should be constructed with materials and to a level of workmanship that result in minimal visual impact on adjoining properties and the amenity of the area.
- ii) Associated structures and outbuildings are to be positioned to optimise backyard space.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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- iii) The maximum floor area of an outbuilding on a lot in zone R1, R2, R3 and R4 is not to exceed:
 - 45m², if the lot has an area of at least 450m² but less than 600m²;
 - 60m², if the lot has an area of at least 600m² but less than 900m²; or
 - 100m², if the lot has an area of at least 900m².
- iv) Open walled ancillary structures and outbuildings with a maximum roof height of three metres may extend to the boundary subject to there being no adverse impact on the amenity of the adjoining properties.

b) R5 Large Lot Residential Zone

- i) The maximum floor area for outbuildings is 200m².

c) Fencing and Walls

- i) Fencing should not block views from a dwelling towards the street or similarly obscure the visibility of the front entrance of a dwelling.
- ii) Council will consider the provision of solid fencing between 1.2 – 1.5 metres high in front of the building line provided it is set back a minimum of 0.6 metres from the front boundary to allow for landscaping for not less than 50% of the length of the fence. Fences between 1.5 – 1.8 metres high must be setback a minimum of one metre from the front boundary to allow for landscaping for not less than 50% of the length of the fence.
- iii) Solid fencing must not impact on traffic visibility, and fencing adjacent to a

driveway must incorporate appropriate setback splays or openings to ensure pedestrian visibility is maintained.

- iv) Fence materials and details are to be compatible with fencing in the immediate locality. Sheet metal (including colour bond) is not to be the dominant feature of a front fence.
- v) All fencing behind the line of the dwelling/ building façade, side and rear fences, may be a maximum of 1.8 metres.
- vi) Side fences which project forward of the front building line should step down to the adjoining front fence.
- vii) Expansive flat and blank surfaces to street frontages are to be minimised to reduce the opportunity for graffiti.

d) Swimming Pools

- i) Swimming pool safety fencing is to be in accordance with the [Swimming Pools Act](#) and [Regulations](#).
- ii) Swimming pools located within the front setback are to comply with the [Swimming Pools Act](#) and [Regulations and B2.7.2\(c\)](#).
- iii) Cut and fill of the area surrounding the swimming pool is to be limited to a maximum of one metre.
- iv) All mechanical pump and filter equipment is to be adequately soundproofed so as not to create a noise nuisance in terms of the [Protection of the Environment Operations Act](#).

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

- v) All waste water is to be connected to Council's sewer main via a suitable 100mm diameter gully trap. A minimum air gap of 100mm is to be provided between the discharge outlet and the gully grate. In unsewered areas, waste water is to be discharged to an absorption pit positioned within the property where it will not impact on an adjoining property or a nearby waterway.
- vi) The water edge of the pool is to be positioned a minimum of 0.9 metres from a side or rear boundary. A reduced setback will be considered by the Consent Authority if it can be demonstrated that the pool will not cause any detrimental impact on the adjoining property.

e) Garages and Carports within the Street Setback Area

- i) Council will consider reduced street setbacks for carports and garages in the following circumstances:
 - there is an existing pattern of similarly located carports/garages in the street;
 - the topography of the land is such that the carport/garage can form a part of an existing slope or retaining wall;
 - the topography of the land is such that the existing house is significantly below the street level;
 - the house is located on a corner lot. In this case a carport/garage can be built to the secondary street;
 - the existing house's setback is significantly greater than other setbacks in the street; or
 - the subject lot is irregular in shape and location.

- ii) New carports/garages to existing or infill houses are to be designed and constructed in a manner that is integral to, and consistent with the style and standard of finishes of the existing house. They should be a continuation of the existing house and contribute in a positive manner to the streetscape of the local area.

f) Preferable Location for Carports and Garages

- i) Where an existing dwelling has access from a rear lane or the width of the lot is sufficient to allow access from the street, carports and garages are to be located at the rear or attached to the side of the existing dwelling. In this case the Council would consider relaxing side setback requirements if required.
- ii) Carports built to side boundaries should be built without walls.

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT C1 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

Applies to

All types of assessable development within the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon making of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component contains general design requirements for development undertaken in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

C1.1 GENERAL DESIGN ISSUES

C1.1.1 Objectives

1. To encourage innovative design which results in development that is pleasant to live or work in, relates to desired future neighbourhood character, is responsive to the site and that is environmentally sensitive.
2. To provide design criteria that encourages good urban design practice.
3. To ensure that the design of residential buildings provide for the acoustic and visual privacy of future residents.
4. To restrict the reflection of sunlight to surrounding areas and buildings.

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COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

C1.2.2 Controls

a) Building Design in Urban Areas

i) General

- On sloping land, the height and bulk of the building, particularly on the down slope, is to be minimised. Cut and fill is to be reduced by using designs minimising the building footprint and allow the building mass to step down the slope. A maximum of one metre cut or fill is allowed outside the building's external walls.
- Avoid excessive ramping for car parking by locating garages under the dwelling on the higher street access side.
- All retaining walls for excavation or filling are to be identified in the development application. Those affecting adjoining properties i.e. adjacent to property boundaries are to be constructed prior to commencement of footings for the building. All other approved retaining walls are to be in place prior to the issue of an occupation certificate.
- Buildings should allow for some outlook to streets, lanes or other public space areas to increase passive surveillance.

ii) Residential (Dwellings, Dual Occupancies, Multiple Units and the like)

- Buildings and road works are not to be located on prominent ridgelines or hillsides.
- The floor level of the residential buildings is to be a minimum of 300mm above finished ground level with provision for the diversion of stormwater.

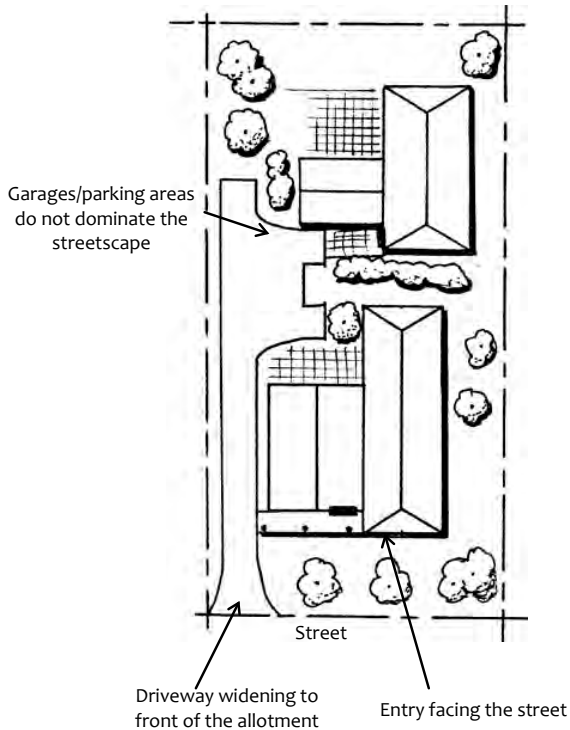
- The design of residential development should consider adjoining properties and development in relation to the following:
 - appropriate alignment and street frontage heights;
 - façade proportions including horizontal or vertical emphasis;
 - heritage; and
 - building separation and amenity.
- Residential buildings should incorporate some or all of these elements:
 - verandahs, decks, pergolas, lattice, awnings, balconies, window hoods, curved or pitched rooflines and overall differentiation of the top, middle and base of the building;
 - inclusion of a mix of compatible materials; and
 - balcony enclosures will only be permitted where the overall design of the facade is not adversely affected.
- Development proposals are to have regard to existing views and view corridors and are to be designed so that existing views are not substantially affected.
- The design of buildings on corner allotments, should consider the following:
 - the ability of the building design to address adjoining buildings, open space and dual frontage;
 - use of building forms which emphasise the corner site; and
 - use of modulated designs to break up the building form.
- Direct overlooking of living areas and private open spaces of other dwellings should be minimised.
- Use pier or pole construction on slopes in excess of 20%.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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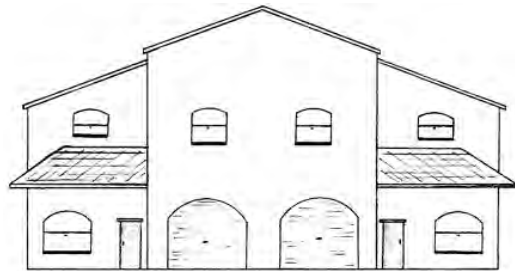
- Garages and parking structures are to be sited and designed so as not to dominate the street frontage (see Figure 1). The aggregate width of a garage door/s facing the street frontage is not to exceed the width of a standard double garage entry.

FIGURE 1 - SITING OF GARAGE AND PARKING STRUCTURES



- Where dual occupancy development is proposed and both dwellings will have frontage to the street, structural variation to the dwellings design is to be provided to prevent the dwellings from being the mirror reverse of each other (see Figure 2).

FIGURE 2 - MIRROR REVERSING: UNACCEPTABLE DESIGN SOLUTION



- Building design should be of an appropriate scale to the existing streetscape (see Figure 3).

FIGURE 3 - CONFORM WITH STREETScape



Note:

- When building in the vicinity of sewerage mains, Council's [Sewerage Mains – Building in the Vicinity of Policy](#) will apply.
- Council is not bound to enforce S88B Instruments in private matters such as density and developer preferred building materials.

iii) Solar Access

- Building design shall allow for at least two hours of sunshine upon the indoor living areas of adjacent dwellings or units (both within the same site and on adjacent properties) and the outdoor private open space areas between 9.00am and 3.00pm on 22 June of any given year.
- Living areas and private open space areas of proposed developments should face North to North East to maximise solar access.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

- When excessive overshadowing is likely to occur, Council may require shadow diagrams to be submitted to confirm whether the shadows cast will impact on surrounding properties indoor and/or outdoor living areas.
- The shadow diagrams are to be professionally prepared and based on a survey of the relevant site and the adjoining development/ properties.
- Where required, shadow diagrams are to be submitted to illustrate the shadows cast by the proposed building at 9.00am, 12.00 noon and 3.00pm on 22 June, and are to take into consideration existing vegetation.

iv) Commercial and Industrial Development

- All points of an office floor should be no more than 10 metres from a source of daylight (e.g. windows, atria or light wells) in buildings less than 24 metres in height, and no more than 12.5 metres from a window or daylight source in buildings over 24 metres in height.
- Building design should include atria, light wells and courtyards to improve internal building amenity and achieve ventilation.
- Large unrelieved expanses of wall or building mass are not appropriate when facing a public road reserve or adjoining residential areas.
- The design of roof plant rooms and lift overruns is to be integrated into the overall architecture of the building.
- Display areas, ancillary offices, staff amenities and other low-scale building elements should be located at the front of the industrial premises and integrated into the overall design and “street address” of the development.

- Building materials that are highly reflective or less durable are to be avoided.
- Maximise glazing for retail uses, but break glazing into sections to avoid large expanses of glass.
- Limit opaque or blank walls for ground floor uses to 30% of the street frontage.
- Colours and textures of all external finishes are to be compatible with surrounding development.
- Articulation to building facades, fenestration or architectural enhancements with application of appropriate colours and landscaping are to be used where possible to enhance the overall appearance of a development.
- Where al fresco dining is proposed it shall be provided at street level.
- Where development is affected by the ‘flood planning level,’ risk will be mitigated through innovative design solutions.
- Where building floors must be raised more than 1 stair to accommodate the ‘flood planning level’ this will be dealt with internally and/ or at the rear via a rear laneway to ensure that the relationship of the shop to the street is not compromised.
- A material sample board and schedule is required to be submitted with applications for development over \$1 million or for that part of any development built to the street edge.

v) Awnings

- Awnings increase the usability and amenity of public footpaths by protecting pedestrians from sun and rain.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

- Continuous street frontage awnings are to be provided for all new commercial developments in the Heritage Conservation Area within Sawtell, and relevant Woolgoolga business zoned areas. Outside these areas weather protection is to be provided at the main entrance to each building.
- Awning design must match building façades and be complementary to those of adjoining buildings.
- On commercial buildings, awnings are required where a building fronts car parks and/or internal pedestrian courtyards.
- Where a building is sited on a street corner, awnings should be wrapped around the corner for a minimum of six metres.
- Awning design should include:
 - a minimum 2.8 metres deep where street trees are not required, otherwise minimum 2.4 metres deep;
 - a minimum soffit height of 3.2 metres and maximum of four metres;
 - follow articulation or sloping streets and be integral with the building design and not exceed 700mm in width;
 - a low profile, with slim vertical fascias or eaves (generally not to exceed 300mm in height); and
 - be setback from the kerb to allow for clearance of street furniture, trees, etc. (minimum 600mm).
- To control solar access, vertical blinds may be permitted along the outer edge of awnings.
- Signage on blinds is not permitted.
- Provide under awning lighting to facilitate night use and to improve public safety. Lighting is to be recessed into the soffit of the awning or wall mounted.

- The bottom edge of awnings (including blind hooks and bars) attached to buildings facing public places shall be no less than two metres high from footpath level.

b) Building Design in Rural Areas

- i) The design of buildings should be in keeping with the rural character of the area.
- ii) Proposals are to incorporate appropriate materials (i.e. timber, corrugated roofing or similar) and natural colours (greys, greens, browns) where practicable.
- iii) Fences and gates should be constructed using traditional materials and designs.
- iv) Large sheds, greenhouses, solar panels and associated solar tracking devices and other structures should be designed, located and landscaped to reduce amenity impacts on adjoining properties and public places.
- v) Attached dual occupancy development in a rural, rural residential or large lot residential setting/ zoning is to:
 - appear as a single integrated development not two separate developments;
 - be under common roofline;
 - be attached by a common “shared” wall;
 - have similar roof form, profile, slope and height for both components of the dual occupancy;
 - have similar design elements for both components of the dual occupancy; and
 - share a common access driveway.
- vi) Buildings are not to be located on or above prominent ridgelines.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

c) Acoustic and Visual Privacy

- i) Windows, balconies, verandahs, decks and the like should be designed and oriented to minimise overlooking of main living areas and private open spaces of adjacent dwellings. Effective design is preferred to the use of screening devices, high sills or obscured glass.
- ii) If the windows and doors of proposed dwellings cannot provide measures that prevent direct view into the living area/bedroom windows of an adjoining dwelling the following should be incorporated:
 - be located out of alignment with the windows of adjoining dwellings; or
 - have fixed obscure glazing to a minimum height of 1.5 metres above floor level; or
 - use another form of screening to the satisfaction of the Consent Authority.
- iii) Dwellings are to be sited and designed to limit the potential for noise transmission to the living and sleeping areas of adjacent dwellings.
- iv) Careful consideration should be given to the location of noise generating activities/items such as air-conditioning units, swimming pool equipment, recreation areas, driveways and car spaces to minimise the impact on the amenity of adjoining properties.
- v) A roof top balcony, terrace and the like on residential developments and outbuildings is not suitable where it compromises privacy and amenity.

d) Reflectivity

- i) New buildings and facades should not result in glare that causes discomfort or threatens safety of pedestrians or drivers.
- ii) Highly reflective finishes and curtain wall glazing are not permitted above ground floor level.

C1.2 SUBDIVISION DESIGN CONTROLS

C1.2.1 Objectives

1. To encourage regular shaped allotments that respond to the particular circumstances of the site.
2. To encourage subdivisions that provide appropriate connectivity and that result in greater levels of walking and cycling in neighbourhoods.
3. To ensure that road frontages maintain streetscape integrity and provide for an adequate area to accommodate services.
4. To encourage lot configurations that maximise solar access.

C1.2.2 Controls

a) Allotment Shape

- i) All lots shall be of a regular shape wherever possible.
- ii) Subdivision proposals should contain a suitable frontage to depth ratio, to avoid ‘gun-barrel’ type development to allow for the suitable separation of dwellings and to permit development which responds to particular site circumstances such as orientation and topography.
- iii) In large lot residential zones the applicant shall demonstrate appropriate separation between future dwelling envelopes to maintain adequate privacy and amenity values.
- iv) Subdivisions are not permitted where three or more ‘battle-axe handles’ will be directly adjoining each other.

b) Subdivision Pattern and Connectivity

- i) Subdivision layouts should provide road networks based on a grid pattern demonstrating connectivity.
- ii) Pedestrian connectivity must be provided by the public road network rather than narrow pedestrian linkages.
- iii) Subdivision layouts shall not involve the creation of lots that back onto public reserves or waterways. Public reserves, drainage reserves and the like should be bordered by a public road.
- iv) Appropriate measures for stormwater control and enhanced opportunities for use of public reserve areas will be considered as part of the subdivision proposal.
- v) Footpaths should provide an accessible integrated network of walking and cycling routes for safe and convenient travel to local destinations and points of interest. See Component C2 (Access, Parking and Servicing Requirements) for detailed controls relating to footpaths and cycleways.

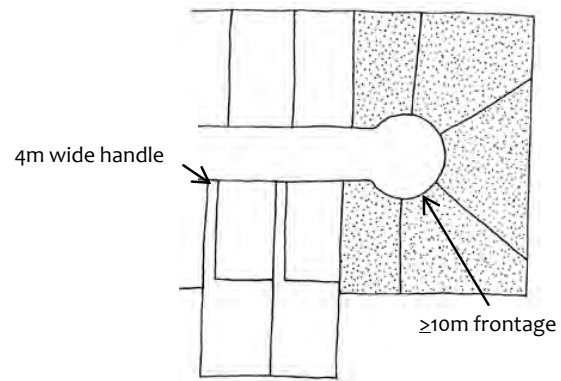
c) Frontage Requirements

- i) All lots in residential zones are to have a minimum frontage* of four metres to public road**, except:
 - where two ‘battle axe handle’ shaped lots in a (Torrens Title) subdivision will share a single driveway, then the combined widths of the ‘handles’ is to be at least four metres wide. Each lot is to have an adequate area at its frontage for a water meter and letter box, in addition to accommodating a driveway; and

* *Strata and Community Title lots may achieve such frontage via their common property.*
 ** *not including a lane.*

- lots which have frontage to a cul-de-sac head are to have a minimum frontage of 10 metres per lot (per dwelling) (refer Figure 4). The frontage is to contain driveway access to one side of the frontage to enhance visitor car parking availability, and to maintain streetscape integrity.

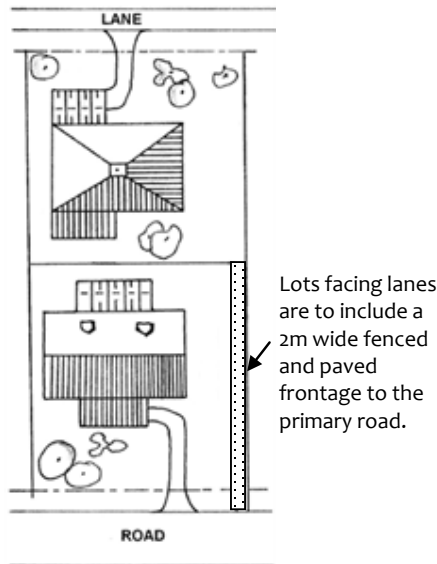
FIGURE 4 – FRONTAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR LOTS FRONTING A CUL-DE-SAC HEAD



 *Lots fronting a cul-de-sac head*

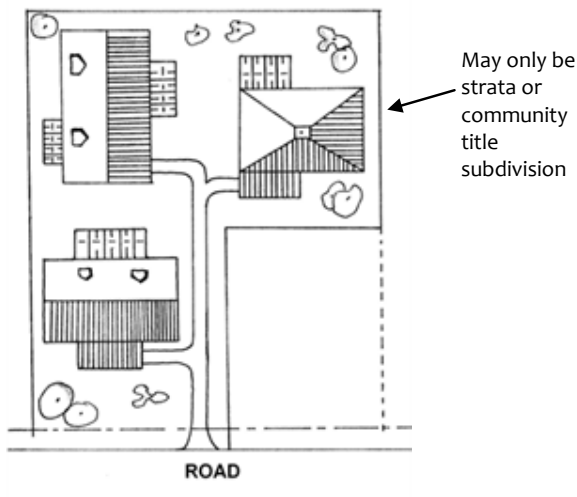
- ii) An urban subdivision which will involve a lot having vehicular access to a lane will only be permitted in conjunction with substantial commencement of the lots development (i.e. vacant lots off laneways are not to be created).
- iii) Lots adjoining lanes are to have a two metre wide frontage, fenced and paved to the primary road, to provide for pedestrian access, letter boxes and services (water, sewer, electricity, communication) (refer Figure 5).

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013
**FIGURE 5 – FRONTAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR LOTS
 ACCESSED FROM A LANEWAY**



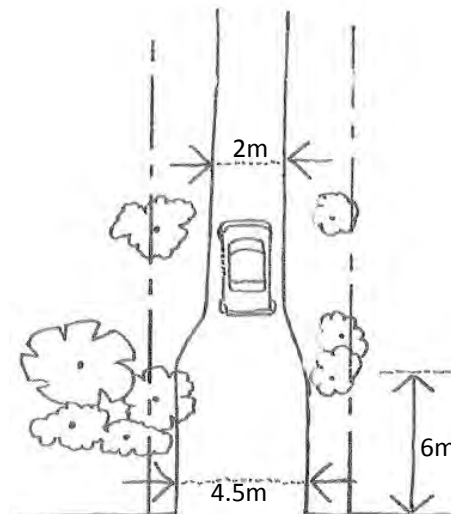
iv) Where an urban subdivision will create three lots or three dwellings using a common driveway, then the form of subdivision is to be either Strata or Community Title (refer Figure 6).

**FIGURE 6 – SUBDIVISION OF TWO OR MORE
 DWELLINGS USING A COMMON DRIVEWAY**



v) In the above situation, the common driveway is to be constructed in concrete, and be a minimum of 4.5 metre wide at the street, continuing at this width to a depth of six metres, and thereafter to a minimum width two metres (refer Figure 7). This driveway is to be constructed prior to the issue of the Subdivision Certificate.

**FIGURE 7 – COMMON DRIVEWAYS (THREE OR
 MORE DWELLINGS)**

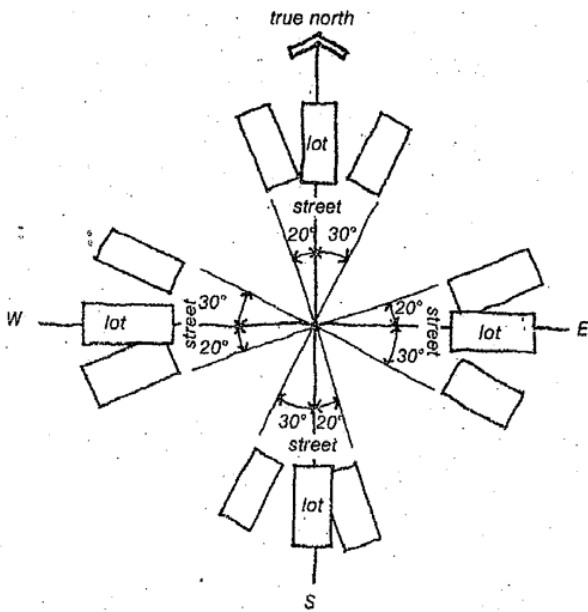


vi) Adequate area at the frontage, to accommodate water meters and letter boxes, is also required.

d) Energy Efficiency – Lot Orientation

- i) Design subdivisions to maximise solar access and to minimise potential overshadowing impacts to existing and future development.
- ii) Orientate roads so that the majority of their length is within the range N20°W to N30°E or E20°N to E30°S (refer Figure 8).

FIGURE 8



iii) On sloping sites, smaller lots should be concentrated on north facing slopes and larger lots on south facing slopes.

e) Flood Affected Areas

- i) Ensure each residential lot has a minimum building site area of 400m² located above the 1% (100 year) flood level and a minimum building line width of 15 metres.
- ii) Local perimeter roads should be above the 1% (100 year) flood level.
- iii) Ensure road layout and subdivision design consider flood evacuation measures for pedestrians and vehicles.

C1.3 PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND MOBILITY

C1.3.1 Objectives

- 1. To ensure that dignified, equitable, cost-effective and reasonably achievable access to buildings, and facilities and services within buildings, is provided for all people.

- 2. To improve the opportunities for people with a disability to participate in and contribute to the economic, cultural, social and political life of our community as equal citizens.

C1.3.2 Controls

a) Pedestrian Access to Buildings

- i) Equitable access to all premises used by occupants is to be provided in accordance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*;
- ii) An accessway (as defined in AS 1428.1) is to be provided from allotment boundaries to the principle pedestrian entry for all buildings where the Premises Standards apply.
- iii) Certification from an accredited access consultant may be required for demonstrating compliance with the Standards at the discretion of the Certifying Authority.
- iv) Parking areas, footpaths, recreation areas, outdoor dining areas and other public spaces are to be designed as barrier-free environments for all people.
- v) Retail and commercial shop fronts within the City Centre Core shall be accessible from all street frontages using no more than one stair.

b) Pedestrian Overpasses and Underpasses

- i) In exceptional circumstances, new over-passes or under-passes may be considered subject to an assessment of impacts on safety and crime prevention, streetscape amenity, and the activation of the public domain. In such circumstances, overpasses are to be fully glazed, not greater than 10 metres wide.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

c) Pedestrian Access to Open Space

- i) Pedestrian links are to be provided throughout a proposed subdivision layout at ends of cul-de-sacs, linking open spaces, and to adjoining existing or proposed cycle ways and pedestrian paths.
- ii) Where open space is included in a subdivision proposal, it should be provided to meet the minimum requirements of Council's [Open Space Strategy](#).

C1.4 SAFER BY DESIGN EVALUATION

Basic [Crime Prevention through Environmental Design](#) (CPTED) principles and strategies are used by consent authorities to assess applications and to justify the modification of proposals to minimise risk.

C1.4.1 Objective

- 1. To ensure that [CPTED](#) principles are considered in the preparation and assessment of relevant development applications.

C1.4.2 Controls

- i) Council will consider and apply [CPTED](#) principles when assessing all developments.
- ii) Council will determine which development applications will be:
 - referred to the NSW Police Service for comment; or
 - jointly reviewed by trained police and Council for crime risk, depending on the size or nature of proposals and their likely impact on community safety.
- iii) The likely development proposals for referral are indicative only and is subject to variance, to reflect changes in crime patterns and size/importance of proposals.

iv) The likely referrals include:

- multiple units, townhouse/villa developments (20 or more dwellings);
- mixed-use developments (with 20 or more dwellings);
- new or upgraded commercial/retail development (major works);
- new or upgraded schools (major works);
- large sports and community facilities;
- clubs/hotels (i.e. including proposals to extend hours, gaming rooms etc);
- new service stations/convenience stores;
- hospitals;
- financial institutions/automatic tellers;
- unusual developments (i.e. arcades, sex services premises, amusement centres); and
- subdivisions (exceeding 50 lots).

C1.5 CONSOLIDATION OF ALLOTMENTS

C1.5.1 Objective

- 1. To ensure that buildings are positioned on land in the most appropriate and efficient manner possible.

C1.5.2 Controls

- i) Consolidation of allotments will be required where any buildings are proposed to occupy more than one allotment. This control applies to new buildings as well as alterations to existing buildings.

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT C2 ACCESS, PARKING AND SERVICING REQUIREMENTS

Applies to

All development within the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon making of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

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This Component contains detailed objectives and controls on access, parking and site servicing/facilities for the development of land in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

C2.1 ROAD AND ACCESS DESIGN

C2.1.1 Objective

1. To encourage road design that is responsive to the characteristics of a locality, the subject site and that reflects appropriate road functions.

C2.1.2 Controls

a) Road Hierarchy

- i) The road hierarchy of subdivisions should reflect road function, and should be designed in accordance with Table 1.

DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
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TABLE 1 – ROAD DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

	URBAN ROADS				RURAL ROADS			INDUSTRIAL ROADS
	Distributor	Collector	Local	Minor Road (cul-de-sac)	Rural	Cul-de-sac rural road	Large Lot Residential Road	General
Road Reserve Width	22m	20m	15-16m	13.5-15m	20m	20 m (18.5m min.)	20m	22m
Carriageway Width	13m	9-11m	7-8m	5.5-7m	6.2m	6.2m	6-8m	13m
Verge	2 x 4.5m (minimum)	2 x 4.0m	2 x 4.0m	2 x 4.0m	N/A	N/A	N/A	2 x 4.5m
Minimum Design Speed	60km/h	40km/h	30km/h	30km/h	N/A	N/A	60km/h	60km/h
Formation Clear of table drain	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10m	8.5m	N/A	N/A
Bitumen Seal	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.2m	6m	6-8m	N/A

Notes:

1. For more detailed information please refer to Council’s Development Design and Construction Specification.
2. Public road design requirements for the Korora rural residential area are outlined in C2.1.2(d)(ii).

b) Urban and Industrial Roads

- i) The layout of new urban and industrial roads should be designed so as to:
- provide for perimeter roads adjacent to open space/natural areas;
 - provide road and pedestrian links to adjoining properties;
 - facilitate the use of public transport;
 - achieve efficient access to all lots;
 - encourage safe levels of vehicle speed;
 - provide adequate sight distances (particularly at intersections);
 - provide efficient access for service vehicles (including bush fire and garbage trucks);
 - minimise impacts on the natural environment and retain significant landscape features;
 - provide for safe and functional vehicle and pedestrian movement; and
 - provide for landscaping, utility services, driveways, letter boxes, street lighting, etc.

- ii) The layout of main roads should also, where possible, provide road networks based on a grid pattern so as to:
- make it easier to find one’s way around (legible);
 - provide persons with a high degree of directional choice (permeable).
- iii) Cul-de-sacs should be avoided, but if used should be short in length. Cul-de-sacs shall not be the dominant element of road design.
- iv) Minor cul-de-sacs coming off a road network that demonstrates a high overall degree of connectivity may be considered. The design is to demonstrate that it is appropriate given the local landform.



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- v) No new access points will be permitted directly on/off the Pacific Highway.
- vi) Where roads and other engineering works are to be carried out conceptual detail plans must be lodged with the development application (DA). For detailed engineering and construction requirements for subdivision, reference should be made to the [Austroads Guidelines](#). Applicants are advised to consult with Council’s City Services Department regarding this requirement.

c) Rural Roads

- i) Access should be limited to one point from local, arterial or main road networks. Preference is given to access from secondary roads.
- ii) Existing access points should be relocated, where necessary, to improve traffic safety.
- iii) Stopping distance and minimum sight distances are to conform to Austroads Guidelines.
- iv) Intersections with existing main and local roads are required to conform to Austroads Guidelines.
- v) Staggered T–intersections proposed for rural cross-intersections should preferably be of the “right to left” type. This arrangement eliminates traffic queuing on the major road, the need for additional pavement for right turn lanes and greater stagger length associated with “left to right” T-intersections.

d) Access Arrangements for Large Lot Residential Areas

- i) Applications for subdivision in Large Lot Residential areas shall include details of:
 - access arrangements to the proposed lots from a public road; and
 - required public road upgrading works.
- ii) Subdivision of properties in the Korora Large Lot Residential area will be conditional upon the developer upgrading all public roads leading to the property to the following minimum standards:
 - minimum 4.5 metre wide sealed road pavement with 0.5 metre wide gravel shoulders (on sloping land - 0 to 10% bitumen seal, 10 to 20% asphalt, greater than 20% reinforced concrete);

Note: extra widening and/or passing bays may be required at some locations.
 - minimum one metre wide grass verge suitable for safe pedestrian usage;
 - a turning area for garbage trucks;
 - drainage measures such as stabilised table drains and piped drainage;
 - any internal private driveways are to be designed to Council’s standards appropriate for the level of service. In general this will require:
 - driveways with a grade up to 10% are to be bitumen sealed (two coats);
 - driveways with a grade of greater than 10% and less than 20% shall be of asphalt construction (hotmix);



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- steeper driveways (greater than 20%) are to be of concrete construction (F72 steel reinforcement);
- if the driveway serves up to four allotments it is to be a minimum three metres wide and have sign posted passing bays every 50 metres;
- if the driveway serves more than four allotments it is to be a minimum 4.5 metres wide; and
- appropriate drainage and erosion control measures are to be implemented both during construction and operation of any private driveway in accordance with Component D1 (Erosion and Sediment Control Requirements) of this Development Control Plan (DCP).

- located taking into account any services within the road reserve, such as power poles, drainage inlet pits and existing street trees;
 - a minimum of six metres from any intersection of two roads; and
 - located to minimise noise and other amenity impacts to adjacent residential properties.
- ii) Vehicle access and entry points are to be integrated into the building design so as not to dominate the streetscape.
 - iii) Provision is to be made for vehicles to enter and leave the site in a forward direction, where the site is:
 - steep;
 - fronts a busy road;
 - has three or more dwellings on it;
 - subject to high pedestrian use; or
 - where driveways are more than 30 metres in length.
 - iv) Design of driveway crossings must be in accordance with Council's Standard Vehicle Entrance Designs. Works within the footpath and road reserve will be subject to an approval under relevant parts of the [Roads Act 1993](#).
 - v) Commercial or Industrial driveway widths must comply with the relevant [Australian Standards](#).
 - vi) Residential driveways are to comply with the following requirements:
 - a driveway, which serves a maximum of three dwellings, is to have a minimum paved width of three metres; and
 - a shared driveway, which serves three or more dwellings, is to have a minimum paved width of 4.5 metres at the street, continuing at this width to a depth of six metres (see Figure 1).

C2.2 VEHICULAR FOOTPATH CROSSINGS, DRIVEWAYS AND MANOEUVRING AREAS

C2.2.1 Objectives

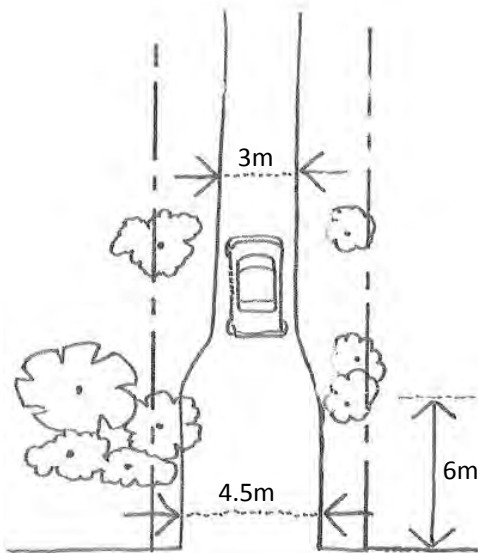
1. To minimise the impact of driveway crossovers on pedestrian safety and streetscape amenity.
2. Minimise stormwater runoff from uncovered driveways and parking areas.

C2.2.2 Controls

a) General

- i) Driveways should be:
 - provided from the lanes and secondary streets rather than the primary street, wherever practical;

FIGURE 1 - DRIVEWAYS (THREE OR MORE DWELLINGS)



Note: For minimum lot frontages and width of battle-axe handles also refer to the Design Requirements Component of this DCP – Component C1.

- vii) Car space dimensions must comply with [AS 2890.1](#) and [2890.2](#).
- viii) Driveway grades, vehicle circulation, vehicular ramp width/ grades and passing bays must be in accordance with [AS 2890.1](#). Driveways should have gradients less than 30%.
- ix) Vehicular ramps less than 20 metres long within developments and parking stations must have a maximum grade of 1 in 5 (20%). Ramp widths must be in accordance with [AS 2890.1](#).
- x) Long driveways may require ‘passing points’ (particularly when adjacent to busy roads).
- xi) Turning areas are to be designed to allow the 85% Design Car Turning Path template.
- xii) Adequate space must be provided within any new development for the loading and unloading of service/delivery vehicles.
- xiii) All service doors and loading docks must be screened from street frontages.

b) Design of Vehicle Access

- i) Wherever practicable, vehicle access is to be a single lane crossing with a maximum width of 2.7 metres over the footpath, and perpendicular to the kerb alignment. In exceptional circumstances, a double lane crossing with a maximum width of 5.4 metres may be permitted for safety reasons.
- ii) Vehicle access ramps parallel to the street frontage will not be permitted.
- iii) Doors to vehicle access points are to be roller shutters or tilting doors fitted behind the building facade.
- iv) Vehicle entries are to have high quality finishes to walls and ceilings as well as high standard detailing. No service ducts or pipes are to be visible from the street.

c) Fire Service and Emergency Vehicle Access

- i) For developments where a fire brigade vehicle is required to enter the site, vehicular access, egress and manoeuvring must be provided to, from and on the site in accordance with the NSW Fire Brigades Code of Practice – Building Construction – NSWFB Vehicle Requirements.
- ii) Generally, if a Fire Brigade vehicle must enter a site to access a hydrant, provision must be made for NSW Fire Brigade vehicles to enter and leave the site in a forward direction.

d) Porte Cocheres

- i) Porte cocheres may only be permitted in certain circumstances for hotels, major tourist venues, aged care developments, medical centres and the like subject to urban design, streetscape, heritage and pedestrian amenity considerations.

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- ii) If justified, porte cocheres should preferably be internal to the building with one combined vehicle entry and exit point, or one entry and exit point on two different street frontages of the development.
- iii) In exceptional circumstances for buildings with one street frontage only, an indented porte cochere with separate entry and exit points across the footpath may be permitted, as long as:
 - it is constructed entirely at the footpath level;
 - provides active street frontage uses in addition to any hotel entry or lobby at its perimeter;
 - is of high quality design and finish; and
 - provides for safe and clear pedestrian movement along the street.

- ii) The accessible car parking spaces are to be located as close as possible to the main pedestrian entrance and should have regard to the use and function of the building.
- iii) Car parking areas shall be clearly marked and signposted shall be constructed to an all weather standard and be graded and drained to Council’s stormwater system.
- iv) On-site parking design must meet the relevant [Australian Standards](#) (AS 2890.1 and 2890.2 2004).
- v) The minimum vertical clearance for parking areas is 2.3 metres.
- vi) Car parking areas are to be incorporated into the building or provided at, or behind, the front setback of the building (some exceptions exist – see Component B2).
- vii) Where more than one space is required for large dwellings, one parking space is allowed between the dwelling and the front boundary.
- viii) Stacked car parking is only permissible in conjunction with single dwelling houses and dual occupancies.
- ix) Visitor/overflow car parking is to be provided within the development site, and is to be freely accessible at all times. Visitor car parking is to be provided according with Table 2.
- x) Car parking rates are to be provided in accordance with the Table 3.

C2.3 ON-SITE PARKING

C2.3.1 Objectives

1. To facilitate an appropriate level of on-site parking provision to cater for a mix of development types.
2. To minimise the visual impact of on-site parking.
3. To provide adequate space for parking and manoeuvring of vehicles (including service vehicles and bicycles).

C2.3.2 Controls

a) General

- i) Accessible car parking spaces are to be provided in accordance with the [Disability \(Access to Premises - Buildings\) Standards 2010](#).

TABLE 2 - VISITOR PARKING

Number of dwellings/ apartment/tourist development	Number of visitor/ overflow spaces required
1-4	0
5-9	1
10-14	2
15-19*	3
<i>* at a rate of one space per every five dwellings thereafter.</i>	

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- xi) Bicycle parking is to be provided in accordance with Table 3, in secure and accessible locations, with all weather protection provided to at least 50% of spaces, where there are more than 10 spaces provided. Where no rates are specified, bicycle parking is to be provided at a rate of one space per 200 square metres of gross floor area, or a parking assessment study to be prepared.
- xii) Motorcycle parking is to be provided in accordance with Table 3.
- xiii) Where below ground level car parking is proposed, the Consent Authority may require the provision of a supporting geotechnical report prepared by an appropriately qualified professional as information to accompany a DA.
- xiv) Where below ground level car parking is proposed, information should be included with any relevant DA that addresses dewatering of the site and the disposal of contaminated/sediment laden water.
- xv) Natural ventilation should be provided to underground parking areas where possible, with ventilation grilles and structures:
 - integrated into the overall facade and landscape design of the development;
 - not located on the primary street façade; and
 - oriented away from windows of habitable rooms and private open space areas.
- xvi) If car parking is to be below ground level, all access points to the car park are to have a weir height at or above Council's mandated level of 1:100 Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) flood level plus 100mm.

TABLE 3 - OFF-STREET PARKING RATES

Use	Cars	Bicycles	Motorbikes
Commercial			
General office development	One space per 40m ² GFA for up to three storey development. If development exceeds three storeys it is to be accompanied by a Parking and Traffic Study	One space/200m ² GFA Per employee: One space/750m ² GFA for visitors	One space per 25 employees
Sex services premises	One space per 30m ² ;		
Educational establishments			
Schools and tertiary colleges	One space per full time staff member plus one pace per 10 year 12 students; or One space per 10 tertiary students plus adequate parking and turning area for auditoriums and sports grounds	One bicycle rack/five students above year four at schools	One motorbike space per 25 car spaces
Health Services Facilities			
Health consulting rooms / Medical Centres	One space per 40m ²	One space/200m ² GFA	One motorbike space per 25 car spaces
Hospital	One space per two beds	One space/200m ² GFA	One motorbike space per 25 car spaces
Veterinary Clinics and Veterinary Hospitals	One space per 40m ²	One space/200m ² GFA	
Community Services			
Child care centres	One space per staff member + the provision of a safe set-down and pick-up area of one space per 10 children, with a minimum of two spaces	One space/200m ² GFA	
Recreational and tourist facilities			
Recreation facilities			
Squash Courts	Three spaces per court	One space/200m ² GFA	
Tennis Courts	Three spaces per court		
Bowling alleys	Three spaces per alley		
Bowling greens	30 spaces for first green + 15 spaces for each additional green		
Gymnasiums	Regional Centres: One space per 33m ² GFA		
Tourist Facilities			
Hotel or Motel Accommodation	One space per unit + one space per two employees <i>If restaurant included then add the greater of: One space per 13.2m² GFA of restaurant/function room, or one space per six seats, + one space for managers residence (refer Note 3)</i>	One space/10 units	One motorbike space per 25 car spaces
Caravan Parks	One space per caravan and tent site + one visitor space per 10 long term sites and one per 20 short term sites One visitor space per 40 tent sites. A minimum of four visitor spaces must be provided in any caravan park	One space/10 sites	
Marinas	Subject to parking study	One space/10 sites	

Use	Cars	Bicycles	Motorbikes										
Retail													
Shops	One space per 25m ² GLFA	One space/750m ² for employees and one space/1000m ² for customers	One motorbike space per 25 car spaces										
Bulky goods salesrooms	One space per 50m ²	One space/200m ² GFA	One motorbike space per 25 car spaces										
Shopping Centres	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>GLFA (m²)</th> <th>Spaces per 100m² GLFA</th> </tr> <tr> <td>0-10,000</td> <td>6.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10,000-20,000</td> <td>5.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20,000-30,000</td> <td>4.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 30,000</td> <td>4.1</td> </tr> </table>	GLFA (m ²)	Spaces per 100m ² GLFA	0-10,000	6.1	10,000-20,000	5.6	20,000-30,000	4.3	Over 30,000	4.1	One space/750m ² for employees and one space /1000m ² for customers	
GLFA (m ²)	Spaces per 100m ² GLFA												
0-10,000	6.1												
10,000-20,000	5.6												
20,000-30,000	4.3												
Over 30,000	4.1												
Service Stations and Neighbourhood Shops	Requirements are additive: Six spaces per work bay (<i>Note: stack parking acceptable</i>) One space per 20m ² GFA of neighbourhood shop If restaurant present, the greater of: One space per 6.6m ² GFA, or one space per three seats	One space/200m ² GFA	One motorbike space per 25 car spaces										
Refreshments													
Takeaway food and drink premises	One space per 8.3m ² GFA plus greater of; One space per five seats (internal and external); or One space per two seats (internal) Developments with on-site seating and drive through facilities: Greater of: One space per two seats (internal) or One space per three seats (internal and external) plus queuing area for five to 12 cars	One space/200m ² GFA											
Restaurants / Cafes	For new development sites: one space per 6.6m ² GFA For change of use of existing premises: one space per 25m ² GFA	One space per 200m ² GFA											
Pubs	Subject to parking study	Subject to parking study											
Clubs	Subject to parking study	Subject to parking study											



Use	Cars	Bicycles	Motorbikes
Residential			
Dwellings, Dual Occupancies and Multi-Dwelling housing			
Dwellings / Dual occupancies	Small (<100m ² GFA) one space (behind front setback) Large (>100m ² GFA) two spaces (at least one space behind front setback) <i>(see Note 3)</i>	One space/dwelling	
Multi-dwelling Housing - each dwelling, zones R1, R2 & R3	Small (<100m ² GFA) one space Large (>100m ² GFA) two spaces <i>(see Note 3)</i>	One space/three dwellings and one space/12 dwellings	One motorbike space per 25 car spaces
Use			
Cars			
Bicycles			
Motorbikes			
Multi-dwelling Housing - each dwelling zone R4	One space per dwelling <i>(see Note 3)</i>	One space/10 dwellings	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004			
Self Contained Dwellings	Public: one space per five units Private: requirements as per State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004	One space/10 dwellings	
Hostels / Residential Care Facilities	Public or private: requirements as per State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004	One space/10 dwellings	
Industry			
Factories/Warehouses	One space per 100m ² GFA	One space/200m ² GFA	
Vehicle Repair Stations	Six spaces per work bay <i>(Note: stack parking acceptable)</i>	One space/200m ² GFA	
Car Tyre Retail Outlets	Whichever is the greater of: One space per 33m ² GFA; or Three spaces per work bay <i>(Note: stack parking acceptable)</i>	One space/200m ² GFA	
Vehicle Body Repair Workshops	Six spaces per work bay <i>(Note: stack parking acceptable)</i>	One space/200m ² GFA	
Vehicle Sales or Hire Premises	One space per 135m ² site area of car display areas + six spaces per work bay (for vehicle servicing facilities) <i>(Note: stack parking acceptable for vehicle servicing)</i>	One space/200m ² GFA	
Marinas	If a survey of a similar existing development has not been undertaken, the following figures may service as a general guide: 0.6 spaces per wet berth 0.2 spaces per dry storage berth 0.2 spaces per swing mooring 0.5 spaces per marina employee	One space/10 berths	

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Use	Cars	Bicycles	Motorbikes
Road Transport Facilities			
Transport / Truck/ Container Depots	Subject to Parking Study (see Note 2.5 and 2.6)	Subject to Parking Study (see Note 2.5 and 2.6)	
Hotel / Motel Accommodation (Truck stops)	One truck parking space per motel unit + one car space per two employees For restaurants facilities, the greater of: One space per 6.6m ² GFA; or One space per three seats	One space/10 units	
Other			
Places of Public Worship	Subject to Parking Study (see Note 2.5 and 2.6)	Subject to Parking Study (see Note 2.5 and 2.6)	
Other developments not specified	Subject to Parking Study (see Note 2.5 and 2.6)	Subject to Parking Study (see Note 2.5 and 2.6)	

Note 1:

GFA = Gross Floor Area – see LEP 2013 for definition.

GLFA = Gross Lease-able Floor Area – the sum of the area of each floor of a building where the area of each floor is taken to be the area within the internal faces of the walls, excluding stairs, amenities, lifts, corridors and other public areas but including stock storage area.

Note 2:

1. Unless otherwise specified in Table 3 above, off site car parking rates will be subject to a parking study.
2. Depending on land use type, parking for delivery/service vehicles, courier vehicles, bicycles, buses, taxis shall also be provided.
3. For mixed use developments the number of car parking spaces shall be calculated on the basis of each separate use e.g. shops with housing above would be calculated on the basis of the number of dwellings and GFA.
4. Calculations shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number e.g. if the calculation determines that 2.3 spaces are required then three spaces would be required.
5. Where developments are subject to a parking study, the applicant will be required to undertake a parking study of a similar type of development in a similar location to determine the number of parking spaces required for the proposed development. The study shall reference the RMS Guide to Traffic Generating Developments.
6. Where developments are subject to a parking study, it must be prepared by a suitably qualified professional.

Note 3:

Refer to Table 2 above for requirements for visitor car parking for residential developments.



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b) Contributions in Lieu of the Provision of Parking

- i) Where it is not possible to provide off street parking on the development site, the Consent Authority may accept contributions in lieu from developers for car parking in the business areas of Coffs Harbour, the Jetty area and Woolgoolga (see maps below).

Note: All car parking spaces required for residential uses are to be provided on site.

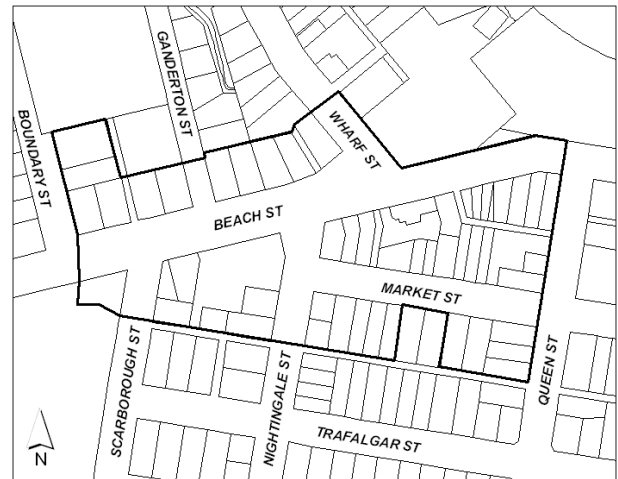
COFFS HARBOUR BUSINESS AREA



JETTY AREA



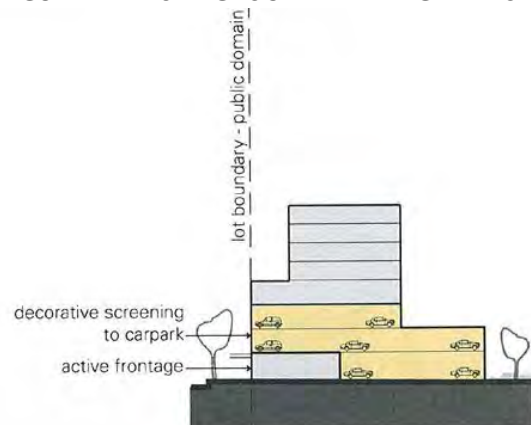
WOOLGOOLGA BUSINESS AREA



c) Parking at or Above Ground Level

- i) Above ground parking is not to be located on the primary street frontage where active street frontages are required under this DCP.
- ii) Above ground parking structures are to be artistically and imaginatively screened from view from the public domain as indicated in Figure 2 (refer to Figures 3 and 4 for examples).

FIGURE 2 - ABOVE GROUND PARKING IN PROFILE



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FIGURE 3 - EXAMPLES OF ABOVE GROUND PARKING OBSCURED FROM VIEW BY ARTWORK AND/OR SCREENING



FIGURE 4 - EXAMPLE OF ABOVE GROUND PARKING SCREENED FROM PUBLIC DOMAIN



- iii) Above ground parking structures in the Coffs Harbour City Centre area (see Component E3) are to comply with rear setbacks where relevant.
- iv) Car parking above ground level is to have a minimum floor to ceiling height of 2.7 metres so it can be adapted to another use in the future.

- v) The impact of any at-grade or above ground parking is to be minimised by:
 - locating parking on the side or rear of the lot away from the street frontage;
 - provision of fencing or landscaping to screen the view of cars from adjacent streets and buildings;
 - allowing for safe and direct access to building entry points; and
 - incorporating car parking into the landscape design of the site (such as plantings between parking bays to improve views, selection of paving material and screening from communal and open space areas).

d) Car Parking Requirements for Redevelopment of Existing Buildings

- i) Car parking provision for total redevelopments shall comply with Table 3.
- ii) Where extensions to an existing lawful use are proposed parking is required to comply with the provisions of Table 3 for the area of the extension.
- iii) Where a change of use to an existing lawful use is proposed parking is required to comply with the provisions of Table 3 [e.g. an existing 500m² GFA warehouse (one car space @ 100m² GFA = 5) to 500m² GFA bulky goods salesroom (one car space @ 50m² GFA = 10). The five additional car spaces required due to the change of use are to be provided as part of the development]. Where applicable, a Section 94 parking contribution can be made.

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iv) Where parking has not been required by the Consent Authority for an existing lawful use but where such parking has been provided, the Consent Authority will require the retention of such parking as is currently provided up to but not exceeding the requirements of Table 3.

v) Where only informal parking on site is currently provided and redevelopment is proposed, the existing development is deemed to have provided the parking required for that development. Those informal parking spaces are to be retained during any redevelopment and those spaces are to be formalised by way of appropriate construction and line-marking to the relevant [Australian Standard](#).

e) Car Parking Credits for Developments

i) Where a developer contribution for car parking has previously been paid for a current approved use on a development site, new development will be entitled to car parking credits equivalent to the number of spaces for which developer contributions were received by the Consent Authority.

ii) Where a car parking credit has previously been granted for land dedications or works on a public road in conjunction with development, a new development on the same site will be entitled to an equivalent number of car parking credits.

f) On-street Car Parking Implications for Vehicle Crossings

i) Where new developments or redevelopments remove vehicle crossings and create additional on street car parking spaces such spaces are counted as credits for those developments.

ii) Where new developments or redevelopments require additional vehicle crossings or wider crossings and result in the net loss of on street car parking spaces such loss of on street spaces, are counted as debits for those developments.

g) Minimising the Impact of On-grade Car Parking

- i) The impact of any on-grade car parking is to be minimised by:
- locating parking on the side or rear of the lot away from the street frontage;
 - provision of fencing or landscaping to screen the view of cars from adjacent streets and buildings;
 - allowing for safe and direct access to building entry points; or
 - incorporating car parking into landscaping design of the site (such as plantings between parking bays to improve views, selection of paving material and screening from communal and open space areas).

h) Lockers and Shower Facilities for Cyclists

i) For non-residential development providing employment for 40 persons or more, adequate lockers, change and shower facilities are to be provided for cyclists. Facilities should be conveniently located close to bike storage areas.

i) Public Transport Circulation

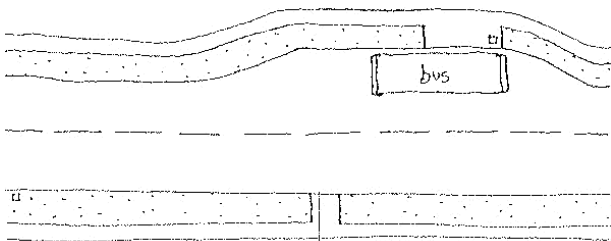
i) Major commercial development, and subdivision proposals with internal roads and off street parking which are located along public transport routes, are to incorporate appropriate circulation and set down/pick up areas within the footprint of the development proposed.

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- ii) Proponents of relevant development (see (i) above) are to involve, at the concept design stage, contracted bus companies and taxi operators that service that particular area.
- iii) Details are to accompany any relevant application (see (i) above) including appropriate internal circulation and manoeuvring paths.
- iv) Consideration to the safe and efficient movement of public transport through the development will be required through:
 - provision of appropriate road widths and circulation paths on roads likely to form part of a bus route within the development site;
 - provision of bus bays (see Figure 5) and taxi zones where appropriate; and
 - linking bus and taxi routes, bus stops and taxi zones to the pedestrian network.

FIGURE 5 - TYPICAL BUS BAY ARRANGEMENT ON ROADWAYS



- v) Relevant development (see (i) above) is to provide for:
 - the safe and efficient movement of buses and taxis through the development;
 - appropriate road widths on roads likely to form part of a bus route;
 - linking bus and taxi routes, bus stops and taxi ranks to the pedestrian network;
 - bus and taxi turning areas, bus and taxi zone shelters;

- road widths and bus bays are to be provided in the development design to meet the requirements; and
- bus shelters on public roads will be provided through developer contributions where applicable.

- vi) Proponents of development and public transport operators are advised that all new transport infrastructure must comply with the [Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002](#).

C2.4 SERVICES

C2.4.1 Objective

1. To facilitate an appropriate level of servicing to cater for development.

C2.4.2 Controls

a) Utility Services

- i) The provision of utility services and access for regular servicing and maintenance must be considered at the concept stage of site development.
- ii) Development must ensure that adequate provision has been made for all essential services including water, sewerage, electricity and telecommunications (including National Broadband Network) and stormwater drainage to the satisfaction of all relevant authorities.
- iii) The applicant must liaise with the relevant power authority with regard to the need for a conduit to be installed within the footway area for the future provision of an underground power supply and extension of the conduit up to the wall of the existing or proposed building.



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- iv) The development must ensure that ready connection of the building(s) can be made in future when underground power is installed and the overhead line connection is replaced with a connection to the underground line.
- v) The applicant must liaise with the power authority with regard to the retention, relocation, or removal of any existing power pole.
- vi) The applicant is to consider bundling for existing power lines when redeveloping a site.

Note: When building in the vicinity of sewerage mains, Council's [Sewerage Mains – Building in the Vicinity of](#) Policy will apply.

b) Water Meters

- i) A separate water meter is to be provided for each dwelling/unit and is to be readily accessible to Council's meter reader.

c) Water and Sewerage Services

- i) Where Torrens Title subdivision is proposed, separate water and sewerage connection from Council's mains is to be provided for each lot where available under Council's [Water](#) and [Wastewater](#) Servicing Plans.
- ii) Where water and sewerage connections are required, but are not available to a lot, the Consent Authority may require the extension of such mains to service that lot.

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Applies to

All of the following developments / activities undertaken within the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area:

- residential development, including tourist accommodation;
- commercial and industrial development
- public buildings.

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides the design considerations for waste management in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

C7.1 DESIGN CONTROLS

C7.1.1 Objectives

1. To minimise waste generation and disposal to landfill.
2. To avoid the generation of waste through design, material selection and building practices.
3. To plan for the types, amount and disposal of waste to be generated during demolition, excavation and construction of development.
4. To ensure efficient storage and collection of waste and quality design of facilities.

DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B3 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B4 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B6 POST EUROPEAN HERITAGE REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT B7 BIODIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

PART C – ISSUE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

COMPONENT C1 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C2 ACCESS, PARKING AND SERVICING REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C3 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C4 ADVERTISING SIGNS REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C5 SEX SERVICES PREMISES REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C6 MINOR EARTHWORKS REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT C8 INTEGRATED (NATURAL) WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART D - HAZARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

COMPONENT D1 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

COMPONENT E1 COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL AIRPORT
COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK
COMPONENT E3 COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE
COMPONENT E4 HEARNES LAKE / SANDY BEACH
COMPONENT E5 KORORA LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL MOONEE
COMPONENT E6 NORTH BOAMBEE VALLEY (EAST)
COMPONENT E7 NORTH BONVILLE
COMPONENT E8 SAWTELL VILLAGE PRECINCT
COMPONENT E9 SOUTH COFFS
COMPONENT E10 WEST COFFS
COMPONENT E11 WEST WOOLGOOLGA
COMPONENT E12 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
COMPONENT E13 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
COMPONENT E14 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F – GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

C7.1.2 General

a) Waste Separation

- i) All development is to provide for three stream waste separation.

b) Site Waste Minimisation and Management Plan

- i) A Site Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (SWMMP) must be prepared and submitted with development applications (DA) for the following types of development:
 - residential development, including tourist accommodation (excluding single dwellings);
 - commercial and industrial development; and
 - public buildings.
- ii) A SWMMP outlines measures to minimise and manage waste generating during:
 - demolition;
 - construction; and
 - ongoing use of the site/premises.

In doing so, the SWMMP nominates:

- volume and type of waste and recyclables to be generated;
- storage and treatment of waste and recyclables on site;
- disposal of residual waste and recyclables; and
- operational procedures for ongoing waste management once the development is complete.

The SWMMP highlights the method of recycling or disposal and the waste management service provider.

c) Submission Requirements

- i) The following are to accompany DAs:
 - a completed SWMMP; and
 - a site analysis plan (at scale 1:200) which is to include the following:
 - location of bin storage areas; and
 - details of design for bin storage facilities including floor plan, elevation, cross-sections, screening, dimensions and drainage.

d) Bin Options

- i) Council's garbage collection service provides a three stream waste service to all residential, commercial and industrial serviced properties.
- ii) Bins chosen should suit the type of development proposed:
 - 240 litre yellow-lidded bin for recycling (collected on alternate fortnights).
 - 240 litre red-lidded bins for residual garbage (collected on alternate fortnights).
 - 240 litre lime green-lidded bin for organics (greenwaste and food waste) (collected weekly).
 - 660 litre sized bulk red- and yellow-lidded bins (collected weekly). Only available for multi-unit dwellings with at least six units, or commercial and/or industrial operations.
 - 1,100 litre sized bulk red- and yellow-lidded bins (collected weekly). Only available for multi-unit dwellings with at least 10 units, or commercial and/or industrial operations.

Note:

Sharing MGBs is dependant upon the space available at kerbside for the number of bins allocated.

When shared bins are chosen responsibility for the transfer of bins to and from the kerb, and maintaining the bin storage area rests with Strata Management Body Corporate/Property Owner.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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e) Waste Generation Rates

- i) Waste generation rates must be considered when determining the number and types of bins required. Consideration must be given to the following variables by applicants, when determining bin configurations for both residential premises and commercial operations:
- the number of occupants;
 - size of dwellings;
 - nature of business
 - nature of wastes being generated;
 - frequency of collections; and
 - holiday period changes to volumes, etc.

Refer to the following web page for more information on waste generation rates
<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/warr/BetterPracticeMUD.htm>.

Residential and Commercial premises – allowable waste entitlement rate (volume) per week (through Domestic Waste Collection Service)	
Waste Stream	Volume per Week per Premises
Recycling	120 litres
Organics (greenwaste and food scraps)	240 litres
Garbage	120 litres
Total Weekly Waste Entitlement	480 litres
Hotels/Motels	10 litres per bed per day (add restaurant factor for each waste stream where necessary)

Notes:

1. *While greenwaste generation is dependent upon the size of the property, amount of garden/greenspace and seasonal variation, or have greenwaste removed by contractors. All properties produce some organic waste from kitchens, lunch rooms, or cleaning.*
2. *There is some variation in the amount of recycling, garbage and organics produced, dependent on the number of bedrooms in each dwelling. Dwellings designed for single/elderly persons generally generate less than the average amounts of waste. Council will accept a site/design specific SWMMP for these specialist multi-unit developments.*



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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f) Prohibited Waste Equipment

- i) The following equipment is not to be used:
 - chutes for the transfer of waste are not permitted in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (LGA); and
 - food waste disposal units or in-sink-erators are not permitted for use in the Coffs Harbour LGA.

C7.1.3 Residential (including Tourist Residential), Commercial Premises and Public Buildings

a) Bin Storage/Wash Area

- i) Communal bin storage/wash areas are required where bulk bins are used and/or mobile garbage bins (MGB) are shared.
- ii) The following controls must be implemented when designing the bin storage/wash area:
 - Dimensions:
 - adequate size to accommodate required number of bins, to service number of dwellings/units proposed and amount of waste generated from these;
 - maximum height to underside of roof 2.4 metres
 - area to be located a minimum of two metres from neighbouring properties (to mitigate odour, allow for screen planting, etc);
 - area to be roofed (with 100mm overhang), bunded and graded to prevent ingress of stormwater/ rainwater.

- Design/Materials:
 - structurally adequate construction;
 - where the facility is in front of the six metre building setback, the design and the materials used are to be compatible with existing or proposed buildings - specify materials and design on plan;
 - suitably landscaped;
 - provision of a visual screen from public view;
- to be drained to sewer, with a concrete floor graded and drained to a dry basket arrestor – prior to draining to sewer ([Liquid Trade Waste Guidelines 2005](#));
- area to be bunded must allow ease of movement of bins as well as access to the area by persons with a disability (as per Premises Standards);
- bin carting grade must not exceed 1:14; and
- security – install anti-vandal tap with hose fitting for washing bins.

b) Location and Access

- i) Residential bulk bins are serviced from the communal garbage bin storage area. This area therefore needs to be easily accessible (within a reasonable distance) from the service road. A maximum grade of 1:14 must also be observed in the design.
- ii) The following must be observed:
 - **Access to bulk bin storage areas** – If entry to the property is proposed, large collection vehicles will need to be able to access the bin storage area. Large collection vehicles require large turning circles and minimum pavement strengths to ensure no damage to property.

- **A [Section 88b Instrument](#) or an appropriate Clause** in a Neighbourhood Management Statement/Strata Bylaws will be required where collection vehicles are required to traverse private property/roads (see an example of both the Management Statement and 88b Instrument in Appendix 2 of this Component).
 - **Kerbside Collection Point** – Where MGB’s are chosen/required kerbside collection is required, no MGB’s placed at the kerb are to encroach onto the frontage of any neighbouring property, including driveway access.
 - **Convenience for residents/users of facility** - If communal bin areas are to be used, consider placing bin storage area near letter boxes or car parking for ease of use. Communal facilities must be easily accessible from each dwelling/unit (as well as the usual kerbside collection point).
 - **Odour, noise and visual amenity** are to be considered when locating bin storage areas so as not to disturb other residents/units (communal or individual units). Consider proximity to adjoining properties, on-site dwellings and recreational areas. Noise should not affect neighbours due to use of area – selective location and screen planting can help ameliorate noise.
- iii) Where possible, the location and design of communal facilities/screened enclosures must be out of public view from the road, public walkways, adjacent properties or on-site visitor car parking. Where this requirement can not be practically achieved, the enclosure should complement the streetscape.
- c) Commercial Waste**
- i) Where commercial waste will be associated with the activity, facilities are to be provided to meet the waste needs generated on the premises.
 - ii) Even where the predominant waste is “commercial waste”, provision must always be made for the three ‘domestic’ waste streams to maximise resource recovery.
- d) Construction Waste Management**
- i) Waste generated from construction sites is subject to the following requirements during construction:
 - footpaths, public reserves, street gutters are not used as places to store demolition waste or materials of any kind without Council approval;
 - any material moved off-site is transported in accordance with the requirements of the [Protection of the Environment Operations Act \(1997\)](#);
 - waste is only transported to a place that can lawfully be used as a waste facility;
 - generation, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste and special waste (including asbestos) is conducted in accordance with relevant waste legislation administered by the [Environment Protection Authority](#) and relevant Occupational Health and Safety legislation administered by [WorkCover NSW](#);
 - evidence such as weighbridge dockets and invoices for waste disposal or recycling services are to be retained;



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- provision is to be made for the adequate storage of all waste on the construction site in such a manner to prevent litter, particularly wind blown litter from leaving the site; and
- the work site must be left clear of waste and debris at the completion of the works.

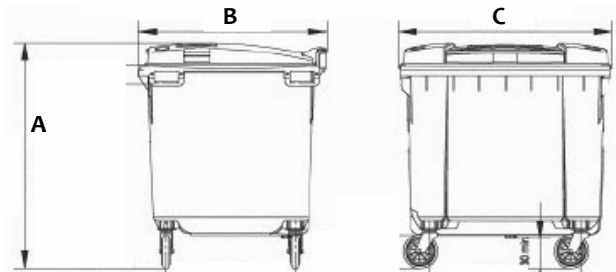
Bin Dimensions	Bulky Bin Types		
	240L	660L	1100L
Height (A)	1060mm	1230mm	1260mm
Depth (B)	740mm	800mm	1080mm
Width (C)	580mm	1220mm	1210mm

e) Bin Design Requirements

- The bin storage area must be designed to accommodate future service options.

Note: Commercial service operators may have different bin sizes available than those detailed below.

Bulk Bin



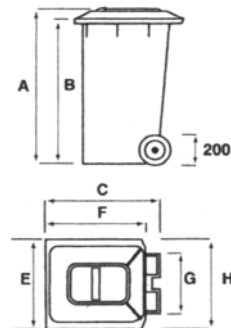
f) Bin Dimensions

Bin Dimensions	Mobile Garbage Bin Types	
	12L kitchen organics bin	240L wheelie bin
Height (A)	300mm	1060mm
Depth (C)	280mm	740mm
Width (H)	210mm	580mm

Kitchen Organics Bin



240L Wheelie Bin



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a) Recommended Design Guidelines for Bin Wash/Storage Areas

Design guidelines for bin wash / storage areas are shown in figures A and B below:

FIGURE A – EXAMPLE ONLY MGB STORAGE AREA (8 MGBS)

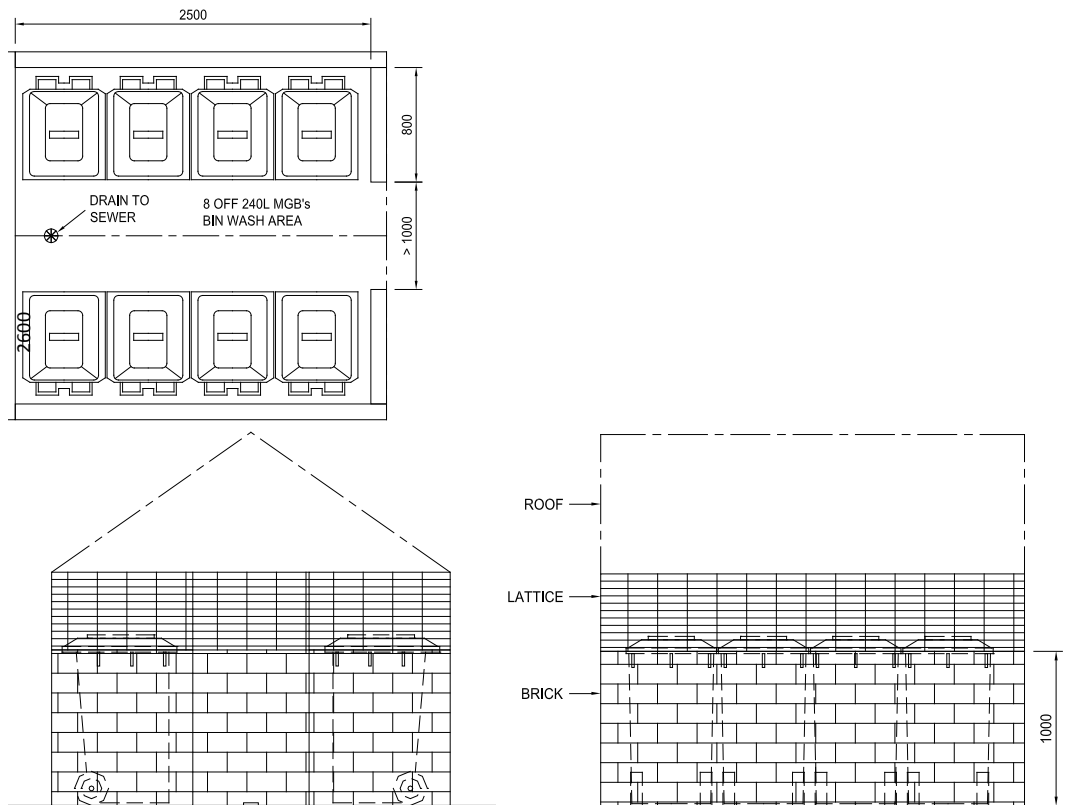
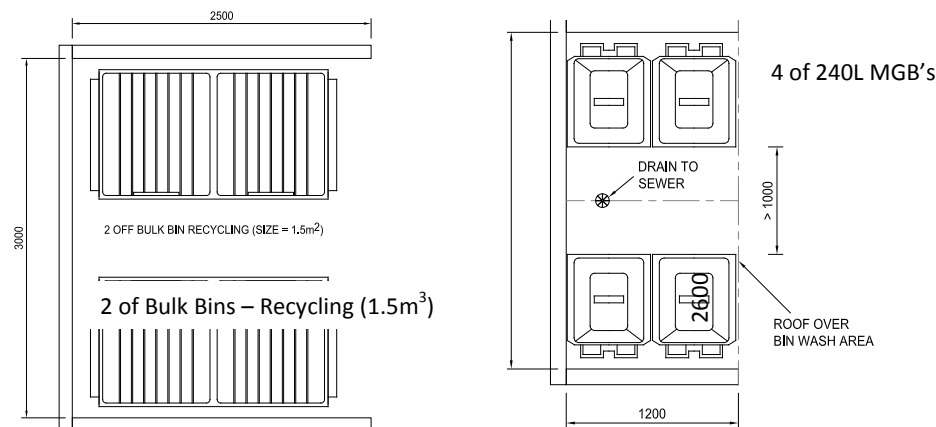


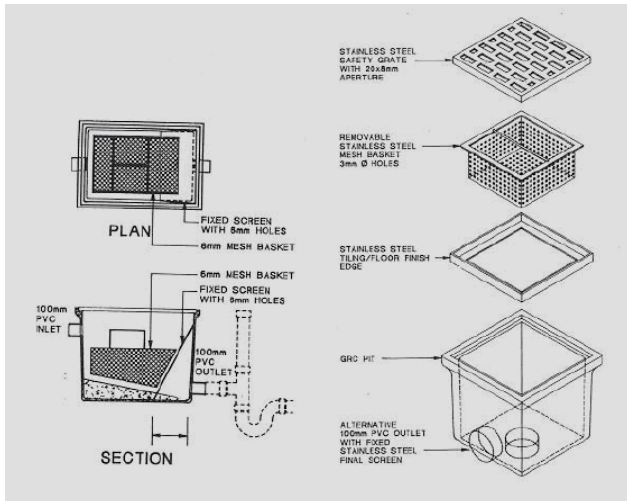
FIGURE B – EXAMPLE ONLY BULK BIN STORAGE AREAS (2 X 1.5 M³ AND 4 X MGBS)



C7.1.4 Bin Storage/Wash Area – Requirements when Draining to Sewer

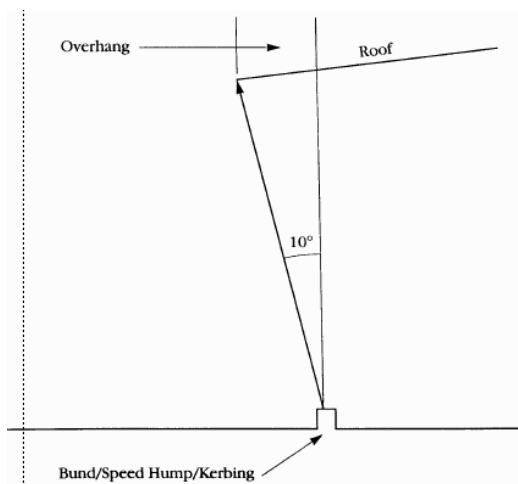
a) Dry Basket Arrestor

- i) The waste storage area must include a dry basket arrestor with fixed screens to any associated drain/s.



Source DEUS Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines 2005, Appendix F page 280

b) Roofing of Bin Storage Areas



Source DEUS Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines 2005, Appendix F page 300

- i) A bund/speed hump at least 50mm high, constructed around the bin storage / wash area is required to ensure that no surface stormwater can flow into the area.
- ii) The overall surface water flow across the site has to be considered and the height of the bund/speed hump may have to be increased to prevent stormwater flow into the bin storage/ wash area.
- iii) Where one or more sides of the enclosure structure are open to the weather, 10 degrees from the vertical of overhang of the roofing is the minimum acceptable cover.

C7.1.5 Bin Storage Areas - Ongoing Management

- i) Bin storage areas must not cause nuisance to residents or neighbouring properties.
- ii) The dry basket arrestor is to be cleaned and maintained regularly by the landowner to prevent odour nuisance and health risks.
- iii) Clear signage is to be displayed which depicts the correct use of bins within the storage/wash area. Signage is to include name and contact details for Complex Management OR person responsible for bin transfer/storage area maintenance.
- iv) A hose with a trigger nozzle, or high pressure cleaner should be used to wash bins (if high pressure cleaner is used, then consider noise impacts on residents and neighbours when carrying out cleaning).
- v) Ongoing management of a shared bin area is required within residential developments to ensure compliance with Schedule 1 - Model By-laws for residential schemes under the [Strata Schemes Management Regulation 2005 \(SSMR\)](#), and this Development Control Plan (DCP).

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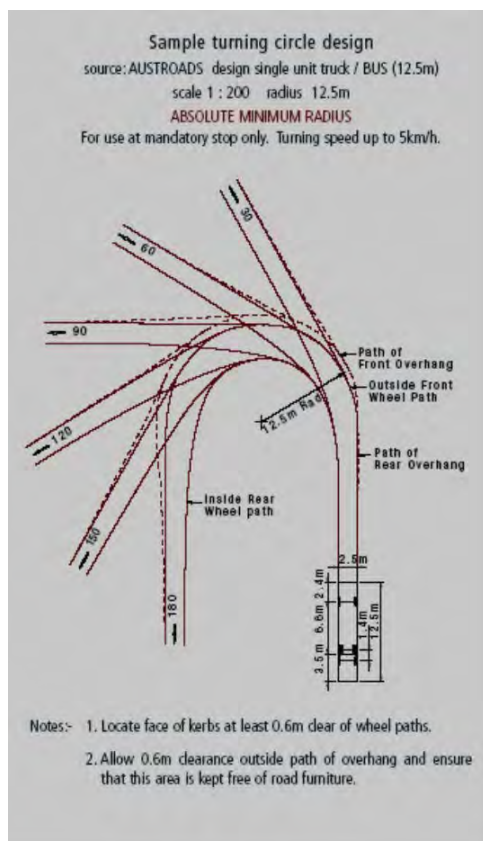
Attachment 3

- vi) Within larger developments, a caretaker may be responsible for transferring waste for collection. The responsibility for waste management on a property ultimately rests with the owner, Body Corporate or managing agent (as per [SSMR](#)).
- vii) Appropriate signage for use of the waste facilities on the property must be provided and is the responsibility of the Body Corporate, owner or managing agent (refer <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/warr/R recyclingSigns.htm> to download signs).

C7.1.6 Collection Vehicles

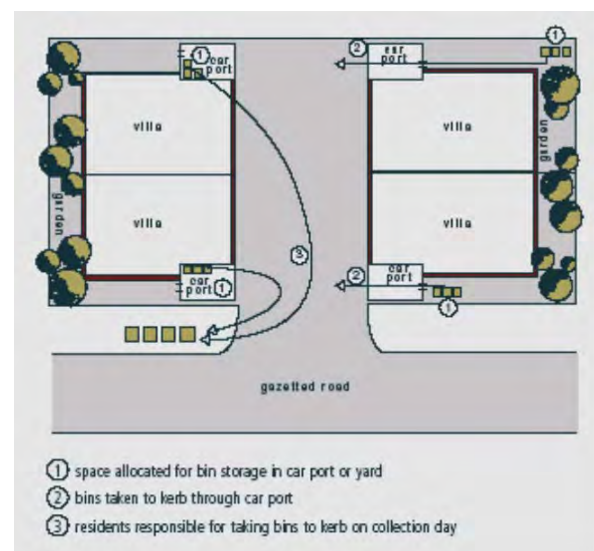
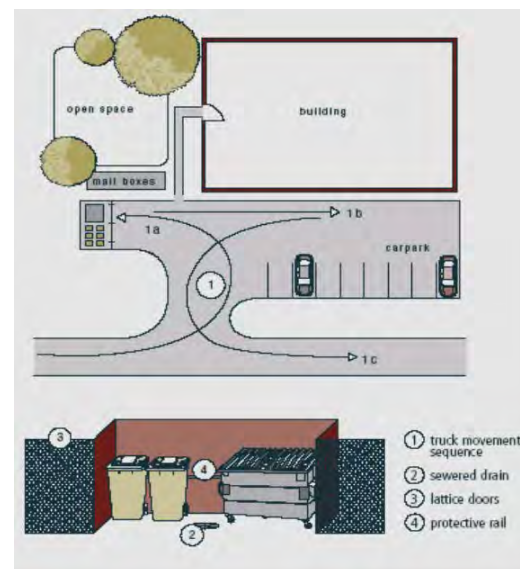
a) Types and Size of Collection Vehicles

- i) Waste collection vehicles may be side loading, rear or front-end loading. The size of the vehicles varies according to the area or collection service. Consult the service provider regarding the type of vehicle that may be used for collection.



b) Road Geometry

- i) The road geometry design parameters that must be complied with include:
 - a maximum desirable gradient of 10% for turning heads;
 - a maximum longitudinal road gradient of 20%;
 - a minimum kerb radius of 8.5 metres at the outside of turn;
 - an industrial strength pavement is to be installed, designed for a maximum wheel loading of seven tonnes per axle in order to accommodate collection trucks.



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c) Vehicle Access/Turning Circles

(Source: Better Practice Guide for Waste Management in Multi-Unit Dwellings Resource NSW)

- i) Best practice design for collection vehicle access to and from a development requires a separate entrance and exit to allow the collection vehicle to travel in a forward direction at all times. Where there is a requirement for the collection vehicle to turn at a cul-de-sac head within a development, the design should incorporate either a bowl; 'T' or 'Y' shaped arrangement. The design aspects to consider include:
- placement of MGBs at the kerbside for collection;
 - parked cars on access roads;
 - trucks should only be expected to make a three-point turn to complete a U-turn;
 - allow for collection vehicle overhang and possible interference with bins and road furniture;
 - roads to be negotiated by collection vehicle are to be a minimum radius of 11.25 metre and a minimum width of four metres; and
 - if bulk bins are to be retrieved from within the building, a minimum ceiling height of six metres is required.

APPENDIX 1 – SITE WASTE MINIMISATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN FORM

Please complete and submit this Plan, or similar with no less information, in accordance with controls as outlined in this component of the DCP, AND include the design and location of bin storage / wash areas on plans submitted with your DA.

Description of Development					
Type of development (please tick as appropriate)	Residential <input type="checkbox"/>	House <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Multi-unit <input type="checkbox"/>	No. of units	Bedrooms per unit:	
		Villa / townhouse <input type="checkbox"/>	No. of dwellings	Bedrooms per unit:	
	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(including public building / tourist accommodation)</i>	Detail			
	Construction / demolition <input type="checkbox"/>				
Option selected			Tick	Yes	No
		Option A. Individual MGBs (3 x each premise)			
		Option B. Shared MGBs			
		Option C. Shared Bulk bins			
		Option D. Individual Bulk Bins (commercial)			

Please complete the table for each element of the waste management system design. Place a tick in the Yes OR No column to indicate where you feel you stand on meeting the guideline requirements.

Storage – space and location (Option A only)				
Location of bin storage / wash area is shown in plans and satisfies the following requirements:		Tick	Yes	No
	Requirements			
	Bins are not visible from the street.			
	Area available at each dwelling for storage of bins = 1.8 x 0.8m			

Storage – space and location (Options B, C and D)			
Service requirements (bin type and access) have been discussed with the collection service provider.	Name of Contact:		
		Tick	Size
Total number and size of bins and frequency of collection <i>(See Recommended Bin Options in Component C7 Waste Management Requirements).</i>	Recycling - eg. 1,100L weekly		
	Organics – eg. 2 x 240L weekly		
	Garbage – eg. 1,100L weekly		



Space				
		Tick	Yes	No
Appropriate bin storage areas designed and cross-section with <u>detail provided in plans</u> satisfying the following requirements (See Bin Storage Areas in Component C7 Waste Management Requirements):	Requirements			
	Bin storage and wash area -			
	Roofed to prevent ingress of stormwater into sewer			
	Concrete floor graded and drained to sewer			
	Drain to dry basket arrestor (as per Liquid Trade Waste Guidelines 2005)			
	Anti-vandal tap with hose fitting for washing bins			
	Made with materials to match main building			
	Concrete graded floor with speed hump type ramp between area and outside path / driveway – no steps			
	Disabled access requirements fulfilled			

Location				
		Tick	Yes	No
Location of bin storage area is shown in plans and satisfies the following requirements:	Requirements			
	Bins are conveniently located for access by all users e.g. near car park.			
	Bin storage area located within 6m of property boundary (unless access conditions satisfied)*.			
	Bins are not visible from the street.			
	Noise and security have been considered in locating the bin storage area in relation to neighbouring properties.			

Internal Storage (residential and commercial only)				
		Tick	Yes	No
Waste cupboard space provided in each unit and shown on plans (See Internal Storage Space in Component C7 Waste Management Requirements).				
Option C - If >3 storeys or >18 units waste storage facilities may be provided on each floor or an internal collection service may be operated at the expense of the owners. <u>Describe in detail and show on plans.</u>				

Access – for Caretaker/ Residents				
		Tick	Yes	No
Distance – MGBs do not need to be wheeled more that 75m (50m maximum for aged persons or persons with a disability.)				
Slope – bin-carting grade is at a maximum of 1:14 – disabled access requirements have been met (where they differ from this requirement).				
MGBs do not have to be wheeled over steps to get them from where they are stored, to the kerbside.				

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Access – for Waste Collectors			
	Tick	Yes	No
<p>MGBs – Sufficient space is available for collection at kerbside (i.e. space provided = number of bins to be placed at kerb for collection x 0.9m). No encroachment outside property boundary is permitted</p>	<p>Maximum Number of bins to be collected on any day =</p> <p>Space at Kerb = metres</p>		
<p>MGBs – The location will not pose a traffic hazard? (i.e. wheeled bins are not placed near intersections, roundabouts, slow points, and along busy arterial roads.) On one-way streets bins are placed on the side of the road in the direction of traffic.</p>			
<p>Access roads – If access is via a private road the collection service provider has been consulted regarding access conditions (NB. An 88B instrument or similar may apply – see attached example).</p>	Contact:		
88B Instrument applies (or equivalent community management statement inclusion)			
<p>Option C Bulk Bins – Driveway access is suitable for the collection vehicle in terms of its strength and geometric design as per technical specifications (See Access in Component C7 Waste Management Requirements)</p>			
<p>Option C Bulk Bins – Bulk bins must be able to be moved across a flat surface at a reasonable distance for collection and the point of collection must be a flat, even surface.</p>			
<p>Option C Bulk Bins – The need for reversing of collection vehicles is eliminated or limited.</p>			



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Demolition Schedule – complete all items that apply below			
	Tick	Yes	No
Identify which waste streams will be collected			
Name of Licenced Asbestos removalist Licence No.			
Identify which waste streams will be collected (tick yes or no in column on right)	Name of Facility / company collecting for disposal (if yes marked in column on right)		
Recyclables (glass, plastics 1-5, paper / cardboard, aluminium cans, steel cans)			
Organics / greenwaste			
Concrete / surplus pour			
Cement / bricks / masonry			
Contaminated fill			
Clean fill			
Paper / cardboard (if not with mixed recyclables)			
Wood / timber			
Metals - aluminium, zinc, copper, steel, lead (pipes, roofing, guttering strapping)			
Plastics (pipes and gutters)			
Insulation materials			
Plasterboard (clean)			
Tiles / roof tiles			
Windows / doors			
Glass unbroken			
Fixtures / fittings			
Carpet / underlay			
Vinyl floor covering / lino			
Sundry waste (paint tins, glue cartridges, plastic drums)			
Hazardous waste (more than 10 fire alarms, chemicals)			
Asbestos			
General waste			
Plan attached with location of temporary on-site waste storage			

Submit this Waste Management Plan with your Development Application.

APPENDIX 2 – EXAMPLES OF EASEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Example 1 – Section 88b

NOTES ON EASEMENTS

Developments proposing internal collection points, waste storage and recycling facilities and garbage and recycling rooms should provide convenient access and a truck turning area to enable the collection of the receptacles from within the property.

EASEMENT REQUIREMENTS:

An easement entitling the Council, its servants and agents and persons authorised by it, to enter upon the subject land and to operate thereon vehicles and other equipment for the purpose of garbage and recycling collection, shall be granted to the Council by the owner of the subject land at the cost of the applicant, prior to occupation of the development and prior to registration of any plan of subdivision or strata subdivision of the subject land.

Such easement shall be in a form acceptable to the Council and shall include covenants to the effect that in the absence of negligence on the part of the Council, its servants, agents and those authorised by the Council to enter the subject property, they will not be liable for any damage caused to the subject land or any part thereof, or to any property located therein or thereon by reason of the operation thereon of any vehicle or other equipment used in connection with the collection of the garbage and recycling and to the effect that the owner for the time being of the subject land shall indemnify the Council, its servants, agents and persons authorised by it, to collect garbage and recycling against liability in respect of such claims made by any person whomsoever.

Documentation for the provision of the easement is to be submitted with the Subdivision or Strata Application.

NOTE: An 88(b) instrument is an acceptable form of easement subject to the area effected by the easement not requiring renewal upon sale or transfer at any time.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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Example 2 – Clause for Management Statement/Strata Bylaws

- a) Council, its servants and agents have the full and free right at all times to enter upon Neighbourhood Property and to operate vehicles and other equipment for the purpose of garbage and recycling collection, and to repair and maintain the statutory services and statutory service lines.
- b) Council, its servants or agents shall not be liable for any damage caused to the Neighbourhood Property arising from the operation of any vehicle or other equipment as envisaged by Clause 5.2(a) except where such damage is caused by the negligence or recklessness of Council, its servants or agents.
- c) The terms of this Clause 5.2 may not be varied except with the prior written agreement from Council from time to time, or the successor of Council.

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT C8 INTEGRATED (NATURAL) WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Applies to

This Component applies to:

- subdivision;
- commercial, industrial, rural, tourist and public building development;
- all residential development, including alterations and additions; and
- change of use (depending on scale), undertaken in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

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This Component of the DCP provides the principles of integrated water cycle management as applied in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

C8.1 WATER CONSERVATION CONTROLS

C8.1.1 Objectives

1. To reduce per-person mains consumption of drinking water and wastewater discharge.
2. To harvest rainwater and urban stormwater runoff for use.
3. To safeguard the environment by improving the quality of water runoff.
4. To plan and manage water as a valuable and finite regional resource on a total water cycle basis.

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PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

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- COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

C8.1.2 Controls – Residential Development

- i) Applicants are to comply with the requirements of BASIX. In this regard, a BASIX certificate will be required to accompany relevant Development Applications (DA).

C8.1.3 Controls – Non-Residential Development

a) General

- i) Applicants are to comply with the controls contained in the following Council policies:
- Coffs Harbour City Council [Water Sensitive Urban Design Policy 2009](#);
 - Coffs Harbour City Council [Floodplain Development and Management Policy](#) (1992 and 2005).
- ii) The following water saving measures are to be incorporated into non-residential buildings:
- provide all irrigation of public and private open space by sub-surface, drip irrigation systems controlled by timers and soil moisture or rainfall sensors. Use non-potable water for watering gardens and landscape features;
 - all water fixtures in non-residential buildings including public facilities must demonstrate compliance with the minimum standards defined by the Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) Scheme. Minimum WELS ratings are:
 - 4 star or greater dual-flush toilets;
 - 3 star or greater showerheads;
 - 3 star or greater taps (for all taps other than bath outlets and garden taps);

- 3 star or greater urinals (manual or sensor operated (excluding waterless)); and
- water efficient washing machines (4.5 star) and dishwashers (4.5 star) are to be specified and used wherever possible;
- stormwater runoff control, capture and reuse, including water quality management in accordance with Council’s WSUD Policy and Guidelines;
- specify operating details for swimming pools and water features including filling, draining and maintenance activities. Covers are to be included in the design and operational aspects of swimming pool installations;
- the percentage of proposed roof area directed to a rainwater tank must be maximised to increase the effectiveness and reliability of the reuse system;
- industrial and commercial developments must install rainwater tanks to meet a minimum of 80% of their non potable water demand for outdoor use, toilets, laundry, hot water, wherever possible;
- water use within public and private open space (for uses such as irrigation, pools, water features) must be supplied from non potable sources such as, roof water and harvested stormwater to meet a minimum of 80% of the demand and treated to relevant Australian Government or Australian Standards or Guidelines as applicable (local, NSW State, Commonwealth); and



- with respect to refurbishments and refits and; where consumption is relatively minor, compliance might be achieved simply by implementing demand management measures alone. In all cases evidence must be provided to Council by way of a report which defines:
 - current demand; and
 - demonstrates how future demand will be reduced by the relevant performance target; and
- demand management measures include the following examples noting the list is not exhaustive:
 - use of aerators on existing and proposed taps;
 - flush arresters on existing toilets;
 - trigger nozzles on all hoses and pre rinse spray valves in kitchens; and
 - automatic shut off for all public hand basin taps and showers.

iii) Alternatives to the above water savings methods can be presented to Council and will be assessed on merit.

Note: Applicants are required to provide certification prior to occupation from a suitably qualified professional that the above requirements have been met.

b) Alternative Water Supply and Treatment Options

- i) Where achievable, drinking water should not be drawn on for the following uses in non-residential development, unless as a backup supply:
- toilet and urinal flushing;
 - fire service testing;
 - clothes laundering;
 - hosing-down; and
 - car washing.

Note: As long as ‘fit for purpose’ treatment measures, appropriate to the water source and the water end uses, are applied, alternative water sources for non-potable uses may include:

- rainwater harvested from roofs; or
- treated wastewater from the development, stormwater or grey-water (such as collected from showers, hose-down, car wash or laundry facilities).

Note: All proposed grey-water re-use shall be demonstrated to comply with the NSW Guidelines for Greywater Reuse in Sewered, Single Household Residential Premises DWE 08_092 May 2008 http://www.waterforlife.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/publication-documents/Greywater_guidelinesMay2008.pdf

ii) Council operates a recycled water distribution system that is accessible along some areas of the coastal strip and adjoining foothills of the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (LGA).

Suitability for connection to Council’s system is subject to application to Coffs Harbour Water.

The following usages are generally suitable:

- irrigation for urban recreational and open space;
- irrigation for agriculture and horticulture;
- fire protection and control use;
- industrial use;
- municipal Use (parks, gardens, sporting facilities); and
- road making and dust control,

(the above uses may be subject to various on-site control measures).



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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Connections to Council's system is not suitable, nor permitted for:

- potable water use;
- dual reticulation, toilet flushing, washing machines, garden use; and
- dual reticulation (indoor use or outdoor use),

and no obligation is made by Council to provide supply security to users of the system.

c) Cooling Towers

- i) Cooling towers, or other forms of evaporative coolers for the provision of cooled air to, or the rejection of heat from, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, chilling or refrigeration systems, must (except in the case of emergency, such as failure of the particular water supply), draw 100% of their water use from an alternative water supply. Suitable alternative water supplies include harvested rainwater or appropriately treated wastewater from the Development, stormwater or grey-water (such as collected from showers, hose-down and carwash or laundry facilities).

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E1 COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL AIRPORT

Applies to

Lands in the Coffs Harbour Regional Airport Masterplan under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

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This Component provides detailed controls for specific areas and land uses at the Coffs Harbour Regional Airport.

MAP 1: LOCALITY



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PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

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COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

E1.1 MASTERPLAN

E1.1.1 Objective

1. To provide an overall plan for the area that enables the integration of existing and proposed development.

E1.1.2 Masterplan

- Identify specific development focus areas to ensure uses are sited appropriately and are compatible with the Regional Airport.
- Guide development in accordance with Map 2.
- Require development to conform with the planning controls listed in this, and other relevant components of this DCP.

E1.1.3 Housing Strategy

- Allow for residential development that is associated with aviation uses.

E1.1.4 Urban Design Strategy

- Require that urban form create nine precincts or areas (shown as “zones” on the Masterplan (Map 2)).
- Ensure that urban form includes a site-responsive approach that supports and enhances the context in which it is located, particularly the environmental constraints of the land, and the predominant use of the area for aviation purposes.

E1.1.5 Servicing Strategy

- Require developers to extend water and sewer from the nearest point identified in Council’s Water and Wastewater Developer Servicing Plans (where necessary).
- Provide for the storage of trade waste and recyclables generated on the premises, where relevant.

E1.1.6 Business and Industry Strategy

- Establish employment generating development that is associated with aviation uses.

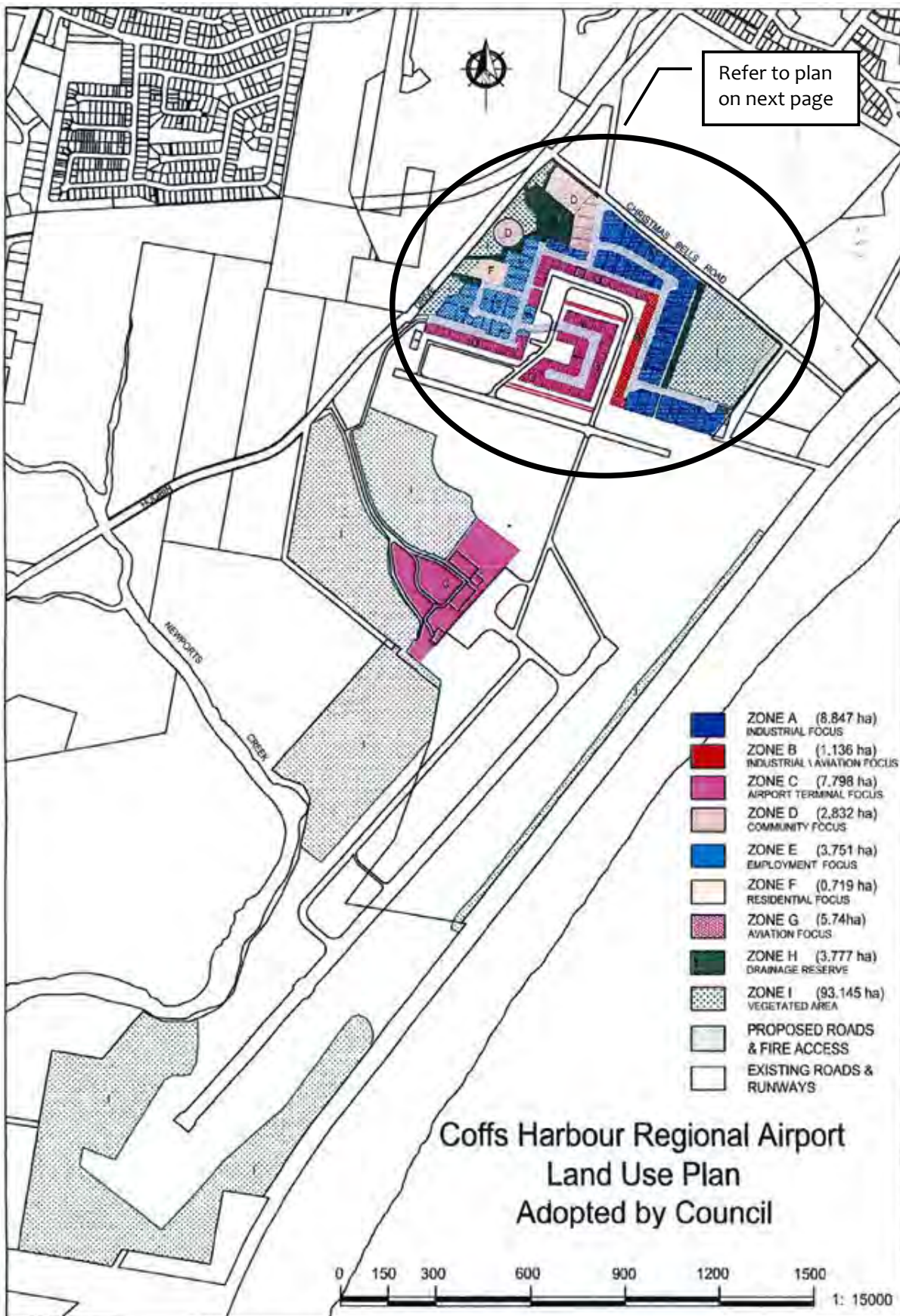
E1.1.7 Community Facilities Strategy

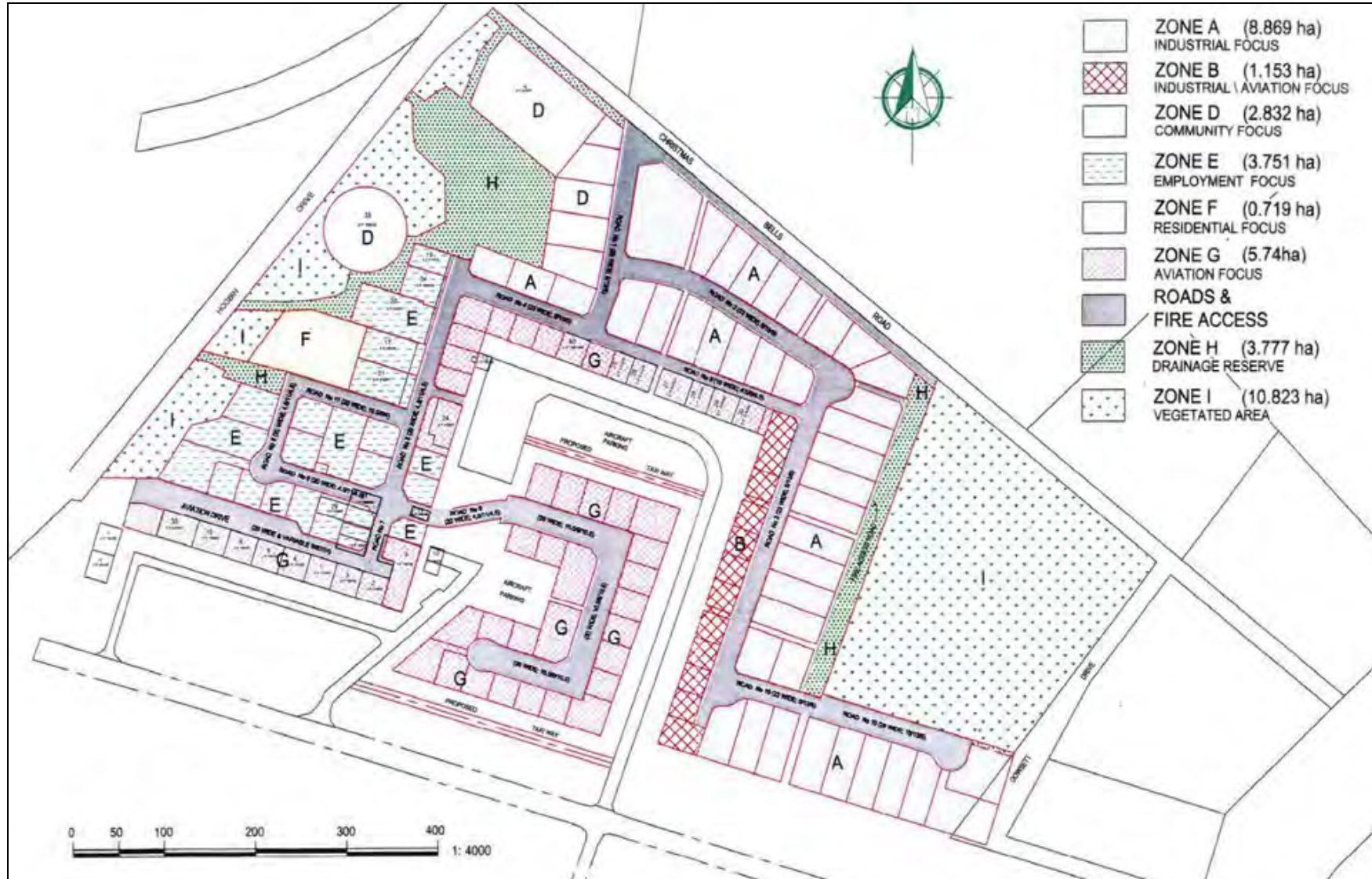
- Encourage relevant community facilities to locate in area “D” within the airport lands.
- Provide adequate transport and pedestrian linkages to community facilities and open space areas.

E1.1.8 Natural Environment Strategy

- Exclude built development from areas “H” and “I”.
- Retain area “H” for the preservation of existing vegetation, subject to the maintenance of the airport’s Obstacle Limitation Surface Plan.

MAP 2: AIRPORT MASTERPLAN





E1.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E1.2.1 Objectives

1. To ensure development undertaken within the Regional Airport is consistent with the special characteristics of the site and primary use as an airport.
2. To ensure any adverse impacts of development on surrounding lands are minimised.

E1.2.2 General Controls

- a) Development is to comply with the planning strategy outlined in E1.1 above, in addition to the detailed controls contained in any other relevant components of this Development Control Plan.

E1.2.3 Area Specific Controls

- a) Table 1 below indicates which of the area specific controls apply to the nine precincts (shown on the masterplan as zones) that comprise the area subject to the Coffs Harbour Regional Airport Land Use Plan (as adopted by Council).

TABLE 1 – GENERAL CONTROLS AS APPLICABLE TO EACH AREA SUBJECT TO THE AIRPORT LAND USE PLAN

	Area A – Industrial focus	Area B – Industrial / Aviation focus	Area C – Airport terminal focus	Area D – Community focus	Area E – Employment focus	Area F – Residential focus	Area G – Aviation focus	Area H – Drainage reserve	Area I – Vegetated area
i) Setbacks	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
ii) Landscaping	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
iii) Flooding	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
iv) Design	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
v) Environmental constraints	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
vi) Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
vii) Hours of operation	✓	✓							
viii) Loading and unloading	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
ix) Signage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
x) Developer contributions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		



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b) The area specific controls are outlined as follows:

i) Setbacks (not applicable in Area C (setbacks for area C - subject to merit assessment))

- Front: six metres.
- Corner allotments: buildings should be setback three metres from the secondary street boundary.

ii) Landscaping

- All landscaped areas are required to incorporate plant species and features that minimise attractiveness to birds.
- Landscaping should include species that do not conflict with the Airport Obstacle Limitation Surface Requirements.

iii) Flooding

Building floor levels are to be a minimum of 500mm above the 1% flood level.

iv) Design

- Fencing should not be provided in front of the building line.
- Provide awnings or colonnades for shelter from rain and the sun where appropriate; these should align with adjoining buildings.
- Development should be designed and constructed to limit reflectivity and excessive glare.
- Development should be designed and constructed to limit night illumination as it affects approaching aircraft and to ensure no conflict exists with airport runway and taxiway lighting.

- Please refer to the Manual of Standards 139 Chapter 9 Section 21 [Lighting in the Vicinity of Aerodromes](#)” on the Civil Aviation Safety Authority website (<http://www.casa.gov.au>).
- Buildings should be designed with appropriate acoustic properties, having particular regard to the impacts of the Airport.

v) Environmental Constraints

Special controls apply to areas within the airport lands that are subject to environmental constraints. These constraints relate to:

- koala habitat;
- acid sulfate soils;
- contaminated land;
- bush fire hazard;
- obstacle height limit; and
- aircraft noise.

Proponents of development on land identified as being constrained are to follow the requirements contained within the relevant Components of this DCP, as well as Coffs Harbour LEP 2013 and any current and relevant legislation applicable to that activity in that area.

vi) Services

• Waste

Facilities are to be provided to meet the trade waste and recyclables storage needs generated on the premises.

Where excavation is proposed, sites for disposal of excavated material are to be nominated in the proposal for Council approval.

Trade waste facilities are to be designed to comply with Council’s [Trade Waste Policy](#).

- **Water Meters**

A separate water meter is to be provided in accordance with Council's current policy requirements.

- **Mains Extensions**

Water and sewage connections, where not available to the lot, will require the extension at the developer's cost of Council's mains to service that lot.

Plans for water and sewer main extensions are to be prepared by professional consultants in accordance with Council's current requirements.

(The service must be installed as per the current requirements and be inspected by Council during installation.)

- **Stormwater**

All stormwater is to be directed to the airport drainage system, or to an inter-allotment drainage easement where available. Surface water is not to be directed to neighbouring properties.

vii) Hours of Operation (only applicable in Areas A and B)

Hours of operation are to be the same as those that applied to the previous use of the building; or in the absence of this information:

- 6.00am and 6.00pm (excluding depots and operations associated with aviation) but is subject to review upon application; and
- the proposed use is consistent with any condition imposed on the previous use relating to the maintenance of landscaping, the parking of vehicles and the provision of space for the loading and unloading of goods or vehicles.

viii) Loading/Unloading (not applicable in Area F)

- Bays should be located such that vehicles do not utilise any public road, footway, laneway or service road when loading/unloading.
- Bays and turning areas should have dimensions designed in accordance with the size of vehicles that will service the site.

ix) Signage (not applicable in Area F)

The scale of signs should be complimentary to the architecture of buildings, proportional to the scale of buildings or development and be in keeping with the setting of the surrounding area.

x) Developer Contributions

Payable in accordance with Council's current policy.

E1.2.4 Permitted Land Uses

The following land uses are considered to be compatible with the desired future character of the area, and as such are noted as "permitted" land uses. It should be noted that Development Consent will still be required to be obtained for these land uses.

a) Area A: Industrial Focus

i) Permitted Land Uses

Depot, Industrial, Light Industries, Subdivision of Land, Vehicle Body Repair Shop, Vehicle Repair Station, Warehouses or Distribution Centres.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

b) Area B: Industrial/Aviation Focus

i) Permitted Land Uses

Aviation Related, Depot, Industrial, Light Industries, Subdivision of Land, Vehicle Body Repair Shop, Vehicle Repair Station, Warehouses or Distribution Centres.

c) Area C: Airport Terminal Focus

i) Permitted Land Uses

Airport, Aviation related, Shops (with a floor area less than 80 square metres), Business Premises (with a floor area less than 80 square metres), Office Premises (with a floor area less than 80m²), Motel, Service Station, Subdivision of Land.

d) Area D: Community Focus

i) Permitted Land Uses

Advertisement, Car Park, Child Care Centres, Communications Facility, Community Facility, Place of Public Worship, Subdivision of Land.

e) Area E: Employment Focus

i) Permitted Land Uses

Advertisement, Business Premises (only permitted if associated with aviation related uses), Camping Grounds, Car Park, Caravan Parks, Child Care Centres, Communications Facility (as defined in the Glossary to this DCP), Community Facility, Depot, Dwelling or Dwelling-Houses (only permitted if associated with aviation related uses), Eco-Tourist Facilities, Educational Establishment, Home Industry, Home Occupation, Hotel or Motel Accommodation (only permitted if associated with aviation related uses), Light Industry, Office

Attachment 3

Premises (only permitted if associated with aviation related uses), Place of Public Worship, Plant Nursery, Restaurant, Shops (restricted to a gross floor area of no greater than 200m²), Subdivision of Land, Veterinary Clinic (as defined in the Glossary to this DCP), Veterinary Hospital.

f) Area F: Residential Focus

i) Permitted Land Uses

Dwelling or Dwelling-Houses (only permitted if associated with aviation uses), Hotel or Motel Accommodation (only permitted if associated with aviation uses), Multi Dwelling Housing (only permitted if associated with aviation uses), Subdivision of Land.

g) Area G: Aviation Focus

i) Permitted Land Uses

Aviation Related, Subdivision of Land.

h) Area H: Drainage Reserve

Proposed reserve to be retained for the purpose of drainage of water and to assist in the preservation of adjoining vegetated areas.

i) Area I: Vegetated Area

Proposed area to be retained for preservation of existing vegetation subject to the maintenance of the Airport's Obstacle Limitation Surface in accordance with the [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Infrastructure\)](#).

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK

Applies to

Lands in the Boambee Creek Area under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

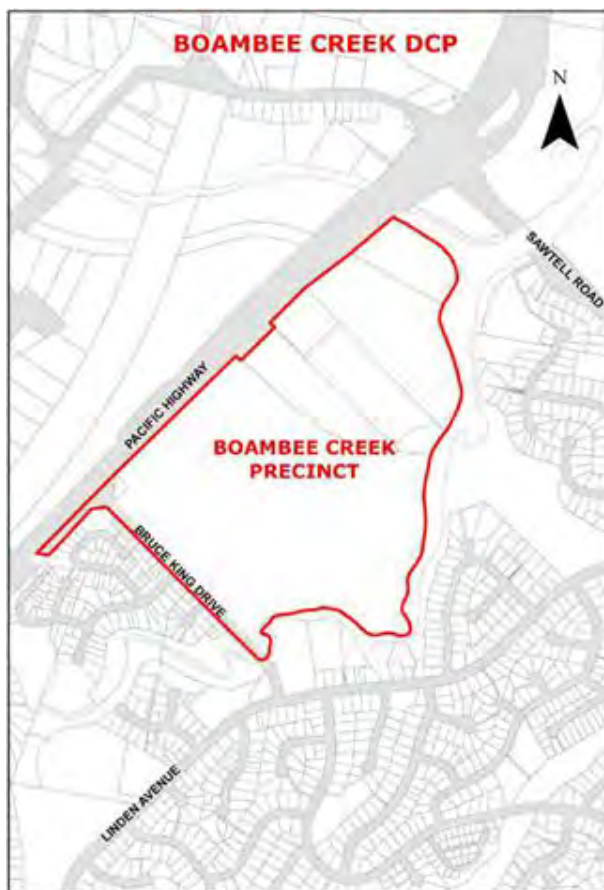
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This Component provides detailed controls for development for any permissible use within the zones applying to the Boambee Creek Urban Release Area.



MAP 1 - LOCALITY MAP

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PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

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E2.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E2.1.1 Objective

1. To provide a framework for a community that is sustainable, safe and vibrant.

E2.1.2 Masterplan

- Guide residential development in accordance with Map 2.
- Require development to conform to the planning controls listed in this and other components of this Development Control Plan (DCP).

E2.1.3 Housing Strategy

- Site and design buildings to enhance solar access/climate considerations.
- Ensure densities comply with those specified on Map 3 – Target Densities.

E2.1.4 Urban Design Strategy

- Ensure that neighbourhoods are pedestrian focussed with an emphasis on social opportunities and public open space areas.
- Ensure that urban form provides a site-responsive approach that supports and enhances the context in which it is located, particularly the topography and environmental constraints of the land.
- Provide for development that strengthens local character and identifies and promotes a sense of community through a range of design techniques.
- Provide for development that connects well to existing or proposed development on adjacent sites.

E2.1.5 Servicing Strategy

- Ensure that servicing meets the needs of the present and future community whilst ensuring a healthy and sustainable built and natural environment.
- Ensure that the provision and management of servicing is in accordance with “best practice” standards.
- Ensure that the existing carrier system is upgraded in a number of sections leading to the Sawtell Treatment Works.

E2.1.6 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Ensure that a collector road link is constructed from Bruce King Drive to the Boambee Creek Precinct. Map 4 shows the identified road hierarchy.
- Provide for threshold and pavement treatments throughout the subdivision to create an attractive streetscape.
- Bus routes and bus stops are shown in Map 5 and are to achieve a walking distance from all future dwellings of not more than 400 metres.
- Road widths and bus bays are to be provided in the design of subdivision to meet the above requirements.

E2.1.7 Community Facilities Strategy

- Provide pedestrian/cycle links to main community facilities and recreation facilities.

E2.1.8 Natural Environment Strategy

- Establish vegetated buffers to the creek.
- Maintain significant regional vegetation and minimise the risks associated with bushfires.
- Utilise best management practices to minimise on-site soil erosion and water pollution.

E2.1.9 Landscape and Recreation Strategy

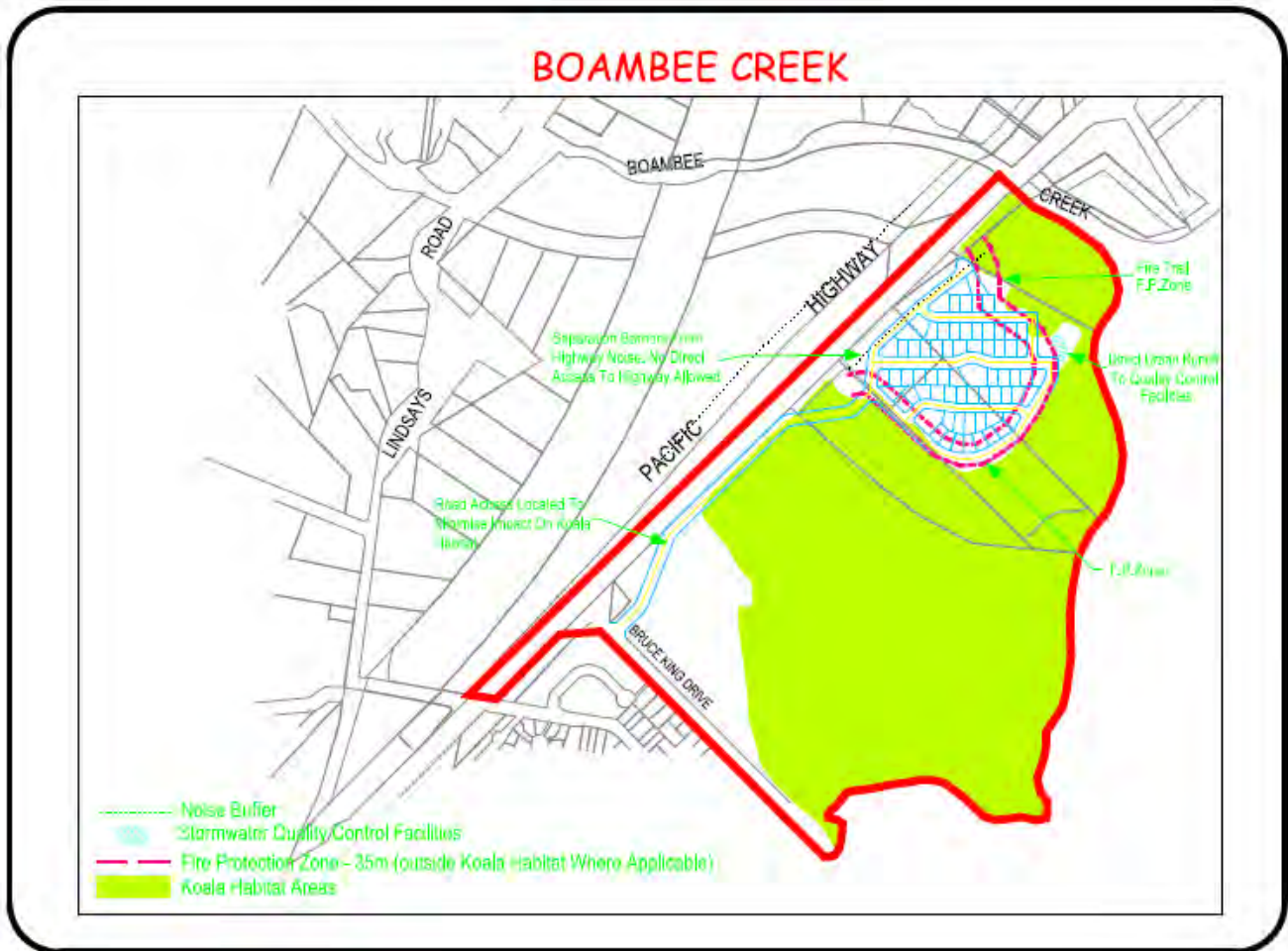
- Protect and maintain significant and/or important native vegetation.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

- Provide access to sports ground.

MAP 2 - MASTERPLAN



E2.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E2.3.1 Objectives

1. To protect and maintain natural bushland, native habitats and koala populations.
2. To provide for development that will lead to improvement in water quality in creeks and achieve water quality standards that ensure healthy estuaries, for natural systems, residents and tourists.
3. To provide for development that is free from environmental risk hazard associated with flooding, acid sulphate soils, urban capability, noise and bushfire hazard.
4. To provide adequate community, educational, leisure and recreational facilities to serve future residents of the area.
5. To provide adequate footpath, cycleway, public transport and road links to adjoining neighbourhoods and natural areas to assist in lessening reliance on cars.
6. To create a sense of place for residents, respecting the natural setting and aboriginal archaeological values of the landscape.
7. To provide for water and sewerage facilities within a reasonable time frame and within adopted water and sewerage strategies for the Coffs Harbour local government area.
8. To provide for development that contributes to the economic growth of the City.

E2.2.2 Controls

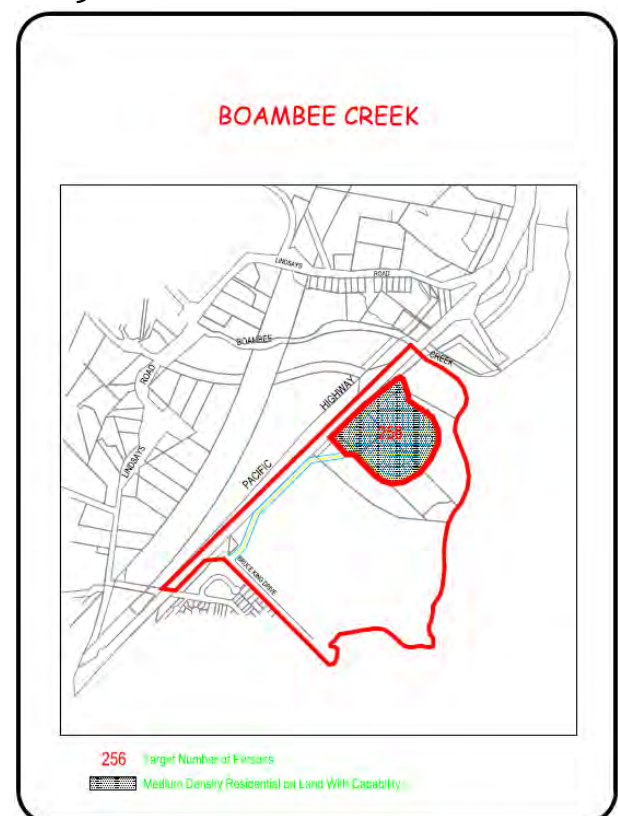
a) General

- i) Development is to comply with the planning strategies outlined in E2.1 above, and the controls contained in this DCP.

b) Target Densities

- i) The minimum target densities shown in Map 3 are to be achieved for the release area.
- ii) The maximum dwelling yield shall not exceed the target density by more than 15%.

MAP 3 - TARGET DENSITIES



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Attachment 3

c) Timing of Development

- i) No subdivision or development for residential purposes is to occur until reticulated water and sewerage services are available to the land.
- ii) No subdivision or development is to occur in the release area until the access road from Bruce King Drive is constructed, or is to be constructed as part of a development.

d) Noise

- i) Applications for subdivision within 300 metres of the Pacific Highway will be required to be accompanied by an acoustic report, identifying measures (mounding, acoustic barriers, building design, building materials, etc) to ensure future residents are not subject to unacceptable traffic noise levels.
- ii) Applications must also comply with Clause 102 of the [State Environmental Planning Policy \(SEPP\) \(Infrastructure\) 2007](#): Impact of Road Noise or Vibration on Non-Road Development and Clause 102(3) Development for Residential Use.
- iii) Assessment is to be undertaken by an appropriately qualified person, having regard to the Office of Environment and Heritage's [NSW Road Noise Policy](#). Development is to be conditional upon provision of these measures.

e) Open Space, Pedestrian and Cycleway Links

- i) Pedestrian paths and cycleways are to be constructed by the developer carrying out subdivision in accordance with Map 4.

f) Road Hierarchy and Access Control

- i) Collector road from Bruce King Drive linking to the release area is to be constructed by developer.
- ii) Map 4 shows the identified road hierarchy.
- iii) Threshold and pavement treatments are to be provided throughout the subdivision to create an attractive streetscape.

MAP 4 - OPEN SPACE, ROAD HIERARCHY AND MOVEMENT CORRIDORS



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Attachment 3

g) Road Design for Bus Access

- i) Bus routes and bus stops are shown in Map 5 and are to be provided by the developers of the urban release area.
- ii) Road widths and bus bays are to meet Council’s requirements (refer Component C1).

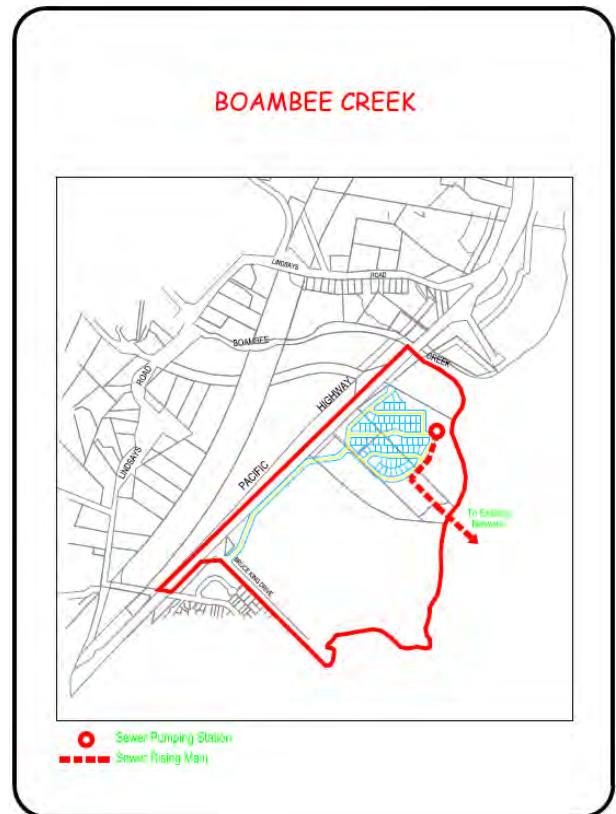
MAP 5 - SCHOOL BUS SERVICES



h) Sewerage Reticulation

- i) The existing carrier system requires upgrading in a number of sections leading to the Sawtell Treatment Works. A contribution charge will apply.
- ii) Headworks charges will apply at the rate identified for the Sawtell Treatment Works.

MAP 6 - SEWERAGE RETICULATION



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E3 COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE

Applies to

Lands in the Coffs Harbour City Centre as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides detailed controls for development in the Coffs Harbour City Centre Area, shown in Map 1.

Note: This Component should be read in conjunction with any requirements as set out in other relevant components of this Development Control Plan (DCP).



MAP 1 - LOCALITY

DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
- COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B3 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B4 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B6 POST EUROPEAN HERITAGE REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B7 BIODIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

PART C - ISSUE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT C1 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C2 ACCESS, PARKING AND SERVICING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C3 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C4 ADVERTISING SIGNS REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C5 SEX SERVICES PREMISES REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C6 MINOR EARTHWORKS REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C8 INTEGRATED (NATURAL) WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART D - HAZARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- COMPONENT D1 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT E1 COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL AIRPORT
- COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK
- COMPONENT E3 COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE
- COMPONENT E4 HEARNES LAKE / SANDY BEACH
- COMPONENT E5 KORORA LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL MOONEE
- COMPONENT E6 NORTH BOAMBEE VALLEY (EAST)
- COMPONENT E7 NORTH BONVILLE
- COMPONENT E8 SAWTELL VILLAGE PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E9 SOUTH COFFS
- COMPONENT E10 WEST COFFS
- COMPONENT E11 WEST WOOLGOOLGA
- COMPONENT E12 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
- COMPONENT E13 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E14 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

- COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
- COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

E3.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E3.1.1 Objectives

1. To provide a framework for a community that is sustainable, safe and vibrant.
2. To provide an overall plan for the area that enables the integration of existing and proposed development, and which coordinates public and private development.

E3.1.2 Housing Strategy

- Plan for higher density residential development near the CBD in order to create a vibrant, lively town centre.
- Encourage building siting and design that incorporates climatic considerations and enhances solar access.

E3.1.3 Urban Design Strategy

- Enhance the Coffs Harbour city centre's appeal as a destination by improving the public domain, especially along important corridors such as Harbour Drive.
- Create high quality, safe and accessible urban and open spaces that celebrate, protect and enhance our subtropical environment.
- Improve the urban amenity of the city centre area through quality urban design elements such as signage, landscaping, public art and street furniture.
- Investigate ways to improve the connections between the City Centre and the harbour.
- Encourage urban form that displays a site-responsive approach that supports and enhances the context in which it is located, particularly the topography and environmental constraints of the land.

- Encourage development that strengthens local character and identity and promotes a sense of community through a range of design techniques.
- Encourage development that connects well to existing or proposed development on adjacent sites.

E3.1.4 Servicing Strategy

- Ensure that servicing will meet the needs of the present and future community whilst ensuring a healthy and sustainable built and natural environment.
- Ensure that the provision and management of servicing shall be in accordance with "best practice" standards.
- Ensure that Water Sensitive Urban Design features are incorporated at the time of development.
- Ensure that existing laneways and through-site links are retained and enhanced to improve pedestrian connectivity and servicing opportunities.

E3.1.5 Business Strategy

- Promote office (re)development in the city's commercial core.
- Establish more mixed use development, including an increase in commercial floor-space, to attract employment opportunities and improve the urban form.
- Encourage the expansion of retail active frontages in the city centre by improving pedestrian access and the public domain.
- Emphasise the Coffs CBD's regional status as the primary commercial centre of the Coffs LGA.
- Build on current strengths, such as health services and education, to encourage economic growth and a more highly-skilled workforce.

E3.1.6 Community Service Strategy

- Encourage community development to support the Coffs Harbour Central Business area in its role as the central business district.
- Ensure that links between neighbourhoods continue to be established.
- Ensure that adequate transport and pedestrian linkages to community facilities and open space areas are provided.
- Ensure that community service provision evaluates the needs of the demographic and is responsive to demand.
- Encourage the provision of facilities, services and resources which attract and support young people.

E3.1.7 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Investigate the reconfiguration of local roads to reduce speeds, improve pedestrian and cycle access, and increase the on street parking and landscape opportunities.
- Investigate the implementation of major cycleway missing links in the future.
- Investigate the feasibility of providing an integrated Bus/Coach and Taxi interchange in the CBD and determine the best site and form for an integrated transport hub in the CBD.
- Promote the use of public transport, bicycle use and walking to reduce reliance on private vehicles (and reduce greenhouse gas emissions).
- Ensure that traffic management achieves efficient and safe movement of people.

E3.1.8 Natural Environment Strategy

- Exclude urban development from sensitive areas to protect riparian vegetation, maintain water quality and provide habitat linkages.

- Exclude urban development from known habitat for endangered fauna species, and provide sufficient buffers to development.
- Protect and enhance the city's visual amenity, character, biodiversity and recreational opportunities.
- Increase the city's connectivity to Coffs Creek and to surrounding areas.
- Develop an Urban Forest Strategy in order to ensure a canopy of shade along major pedestrian routes and destinations to protect from harsh sunlight and to encourage walking.
- Implement plans to progress the development of a green landscape through the City.
- Promote healthy waterways in the urban city setting.

E3.1.9 Open Space and Recreation Strategy

- Ensure that cyclists and pedestrians are encouraged to share the streets with cars.
- Encourage public parks to be celebrated through art installations.
- Ensure that Coffs Creek parkland and other local parks are used for passive and active recreation.
- Encourage activities in well designed public spaces that encourage the city's vitality and economic prosperity
- Encourage better public access and interaction with Coffs Creek to improve its attractiveness to the community.
- Manage open space areas and community land in accordance with the relevant Plan of Management.
- Encourage passive recreation within open space areas (including bushfire buffers) where it does not involve the removal of native vegetation and/or damage to the environmental values of the area.



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- Encourage development that provides open space linkages to adjacent environmental protection and/or open space areas.
- Development shall provide open space linkages to adjacent environmental protection and/or open space areas.

E3.1.10 City Centre Character Areas

A number of defined city centre character areas exist. These are outlined below and shown in Map 2.

a) City Core

- i) Coffs Harbour has a relatively centralised urban core and serves a role as a sub-regional centre.
- ii) The City Core is the main business centre occupying some 30 hectares of land. This area also contains major cultural land uses (refer Map 2).
- iii) This area provides:
 - a core retail precinct with a mixture of specialty shops;
 - professional offices;
 - a meeting place for the community;
 - community and cultural facilities;
 - health and welfare support services;
 - an entertainment precinct;
 - civic offices; and
 - restaurant and dining experiences.
- iv) The future character of the City Core will be of an attractive retail, employment and residential area catering to locals, visitors and tourists. The new buildings will be of high quality with a mix of uses that would encourage safety and activity during the day and at night.

- v) The buildings will have continuous awnings for weather protection and outdoor dining will be encouraged along main streets. The landscape character of local streets will have distinct paving, lighting and street furniture to make visitors welcome and locals proud of the city.

b) Orlando Street

- i) This Precinct is a mixed industrial area and contains general industrial activity, with some existing small scale bulky goods retail and service industries.
- ii) Given its proximity to the Solitary Island Marine Park (Coffs Creek) and residential development the area is best suited to low impact industry and will continue its role as a light industrial area providing a range of local service industries.

c) Gateway

- i) The land along Pacific Highway is defined as the “Gateway” to Coffs Harbour. It is the arrival point for many visitors and therefore impacts on how the City’s character and attributes are perceived.
- ii) The corridor between the Coffs Creek and Bray Street has inherent future development opportunities which can improve the City’s image, amenity and transport network structure.
- iii) Previous development as well as legally operating home industries/ home occupations mean that the area has a variety of uses.
- iv) The Enterprise Corridor zoning will support existing uses in this precinct, which contribute to the local economy and offer flexibility and diversity of employment.

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- v) The area will remain a low key commercial use with low scale buildings with active frontages and front street setback accommodating landscape and visitor car parking.

d) Park Beach Retail

- i) This precinct functions as a regional retail centre serving the community. The scale of development in the precinct and its proximity to the City Core means this centre can contribute to the regional status of Coffs Harbour and its economic vitality.
- ii) This precinct has a mix of retail and service businesses, good accessibility and proximity to surrounding residential precincts. It functions well as a local centre offering retail and service roles.
- iii) It is envisaged that in the future the precinct will have better pedestrian links to the surrounding areas and conflicts with vehicles will be reduced.
- iv) The view of the retail precinct from Pacific Highway should be improved and landscaping introduced to soften the large expanses of parking.

e) Park Beach

- i) This area of Park Beach has developed into a residential precinct catering for tourist/ visitor and permanent accommodation. The proximity to the beach and major shopping facilities has enhanced the residential role of this location. Its relatively flat terrain makes it ideal for pedestrian and cycle movement.

- ii) The area's residential stock ranges in age, size and design with no established theme. Many of the residential developments have been strata titled, making redevelopment difficult. Future development should take advantage of Coffs Harbour's subtropical climate by employing natural ventilation and passive heating and cooling.
- iii) Few vacant sites exist; however two large sites on Arthur Street are important for major new development and as such are subject to special area provisions (refer E3.5.2(b) and (c)).
- iv) The area's service laneways need to be upgraded to provide enhanced pedestrian and cycle connections, improved amenity and safety.

f) Park Beach East

- i) The eastern portion of Park Beach is the most attractive residential and tourist location in Coffs Harbour with direct access to Park Beach. The area contains the tallest residential buildings and tourist accommodation in Coffs ranging from two to seventeen storeys.
- ii) The precinct provides a mixture of uses including holiday accommodation, permanent accommodation, and tourist facilities; all with links to recreational spaces, the nearby beach and the coastal reserve.
- iii) The future development in the northern part of Park Beach East will have a higher density and taller development, while development in the southern part will be of innovative and functional design minimising impacts on the aesthetic, recreational and environmental values of the area.



g) Jetty Core

- i) The Jetty Core Precinct is located at the site of the original township of Coffs Harbour. This Precinct hosts a thriving mixed use area with small cafes, retail strip, some short term accommodation, residential and some residual light industrial uses.
- ii) The Jetty Core's role as a mixed use precinct is important for its future success. The amenity and character of the precinct are ensured by proximity to the nearby beach and harbour and the views that link it with those features.
- iii) While some light industrial uses remain from earlier associations with the harbour and railway line, the future character of this area will focus on higher density mixed use development supporting active frontages to the streets and outdoor dining.

h) Harbourside

- i) The future potential of the Harbourside Precinct has created much debate within the Coffs Harbour community. Any future redevelopment of this precinct needs to reflect the following principles:
 - incorporate and reaffirm the Aboriginal meaning of the place;
 - strengthen the Harbourside Precinct's identity as an outstanding destination;
 - support the function of the harbour as an international port for small vessels;
 - enhance the recreational functions and amenity of the Harbourside Precinct;
 - enhance the environmental quality of the Harbourside Precinct;
 - establish and maintain landscaping as the dominant element over built form;

- promote and incorporate the settlement history of this Harbourside Precinct;
- strengthen the small-scale character of built form within the Harbourside Precinct;
- establish ecological integrity as a component of local character;
- develop the Precinct as a recognisable seaside village; and
- create development opportunities which are sustainable in an environmentally, socially and financially sound way.

i) City West

- i) The predominant use of this precinct is for residential purposes. Its proximity in relation to the City Core and associated services make this area ideal for increased residential density.
- ii) Two specific sub precincts have been identified for the highest residential zoning and therefore have future potential to achieve high density living. These two residential sub precincts are called McLean Street and Coffs Creek.
- iii) The location of high density residential development in these locations is also enhanced by the proximity to the extensive open space McLean Street Oval and Coffs Creek.
- iv) Special area plans have been prepared for the Coffs Creek and McLean Street high density residential areas (see Sections E3.5(g) and (h)).

j) Bray Street Residential

- i) This precinct is predominantly low density residential in nature with some business activity focused on the primary road corridors. The area is predominantly flat and thus susceptible to flooding.

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- ii) Much of the residential development in this precinct caters for lower cost/affordable housing.
- iii) Redevelopment of older Department of Housing stock is currently being assessed. The Department of Housing is seeking to increase densities in order to provide a better quality housing choice for a greater number of community members. The impediment to this is the potential flood impact on the precinct.
- iv) The precinct's amenity is enhanced by the existing public passive open space network.
- v) The future character of this precinct will be residential in nature.

k) City East

- i) There are various uses within this precinct, with a strong residential focus.
- ii) This precinct includes residential land within walking distance of the Commercial Core. One area within this precinct, in proximity to facilities and services of the City Core, has a high density living zone.
- iii) The attractiveness of residential development within the City East Precinct is enhanced by the proximity to existing educational facilities and extensive open space (including Brelsford Park, Botanic Gardens and Coffs Creek).

Note: The building site coverage in Brelsford Park is not to exceed 20% of the total area of the park; in accordance with the adopted Plan of Management.

- iv) A special area plan has been prepared to illustrate specific controls for the Albany Street high density residential area (see Section E3.5(f)).

l) Jetty

- i) This precinct is to be predominantly medium density residential in nature, reflecting a character influenced by natural landscape elements. The local landscape is to be enhanced by the introduction of local endemic street tree planting.
- ii) Significant views to Coffs Creek, the mountains and coast are to be retained.
- iii) The following general principles will guide future development:
 - maintain focus of existing mixed use businesses on Harbour Drive;
 - continue to provide for higher density development along the "spine" of Harbour Drive and into appropriate locations adjacent to Harbour Drive;
 - retain and protect open space along Coffs Creek; and
 - retain a green backdrop to development.
- iv) Within this precinct the former hospital site is deemed to be important and require special area controls to ensure appropriate development is achieved in the longer term (see Section E3.5(e)).

m) Coffs Creek Residential

- i) This precinct has been developed with low density permanent residential accommodation.
- ii) The area benefits from the natural amenity of Coffs Creek, as well as from proximity to the city's beaches, shopping, employment and recreational facilities.
- iii) Since development in the area is relatively recent, redevelopment opportunities in this precinct are limited.



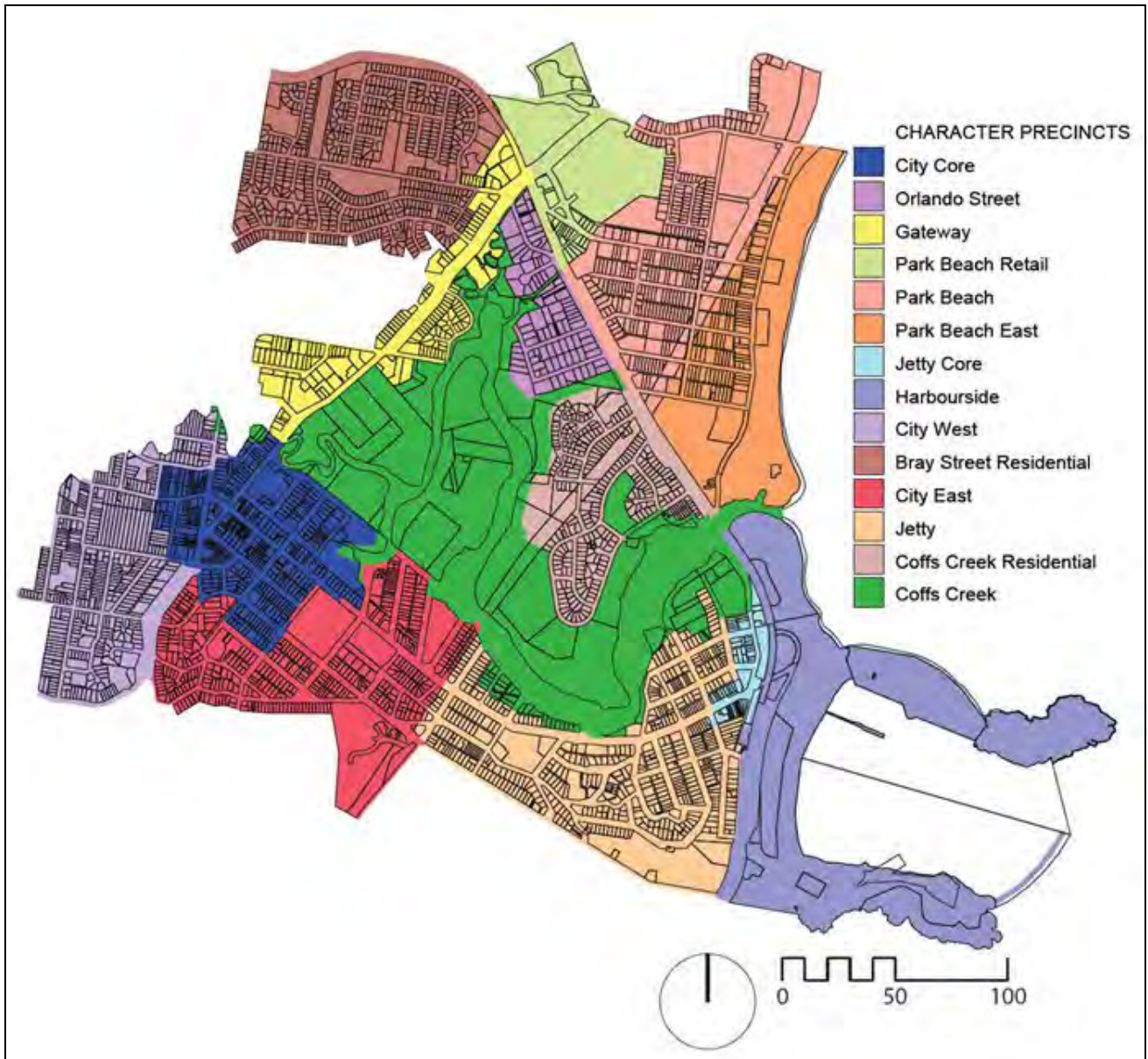
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n) Coffs Creek

- i) The Coffs Creek parkland is the “lungs” of the City Centre.
- ii) This precinct has wonderful opportunities to assist the City achieve a healthy, active sustainable future. It provides passive and active recreational opportunities in a central location to the City Centre and it has good access for residents, visitors and workers.
- iii) The precinct also facilitates cycle and pedestrian links which connect many of the precincts within the city centre. The Coffs Creek network will provide Coffs Harbour with an environmental and recreational asset for the future as residential density and the city’s regional role increases.

MAP 2 - CITY CENTRE CHARACTER AREAS



E3.2 BUILDING FORM

E3.2.1 Objectives

1. To achieve attractive and sustainable built form within the Coffs Harbour City Centre;
2. To encourage active street frontages with good physical and visual connections between buildings and the street;
3. To achieve an articulation and finish of buildings that contributes to a high quality of design excellence;
4. To ensure building depth and bulk is appropriate to the environmental setting and landform, and allows for view sharing and provides good internal building amenity.

E3.3.2 Controls

a) Building Alignment and Setbacks

- i) Setbacks within the Coffs Harbour City Centre area are to be provided in accordance with Table 1.
- ii) The external façade of buildings are to be aligned with the streets that they front.
- iii) Notwithstanding the setback controls, where development must be built to the street alignment (see Table 1) it must also be built to the side boundaries (zero metre setback) in the vicinity of the street.
- iv) The minimum height of development built to the site boundary must comply with the minimum street frontage height requirement.
- v) Angled setbacks shall be required adjacent to public walkways to provide important civic spaces.
- vi) Front setbacks within residential areas are to be suitably landscaped (refer to Component C3).

Note: A minor departure from setback controls may be considered where site conditions or site configuration demonstratively impedes development and no other option is available.

b) Side and Rear Building Setbacks and Building Separation

- i) The minimum building setbacks from the front, side and rear property boundaries are specified in Table 1 and illustrated generically in Figure 1.
- ii) In mixed use buildings, setbacks for the residential component are to be the distances specified in the Table 1 for residential development in the specified zone.
- iii) If the specified setback distances cannot be achieved when an existing building is being refurbished or converted to another use, appropriate visual privacy levels are to be achieved through other means. These will be assessed on merit by the Consent Authority.

Notes:

1. For the purposes of this section, commercial uses mean all non-residential buildings (including hotel accommodation, but not serviced apartments).
2. The building setbacks outlined in Figure 1 and Table 1 apply to all forms of residential development including dwellings, dual occupancies, residential flat buildings and multi-dwelling housing.
3. Council will determine the primary address for the development and apply the front setback to that part of the development. In assessing the primary address and establishing setback requirements, it is necessary to consider topography, bushfire requirements and/or other features including existing development on the site. Any setback must not create amenity impacts for adjoining properties or future amenity impacts on the subject site.

FIGURE 1 - GENERIC BUILDING SEPARATION DIAGRAM

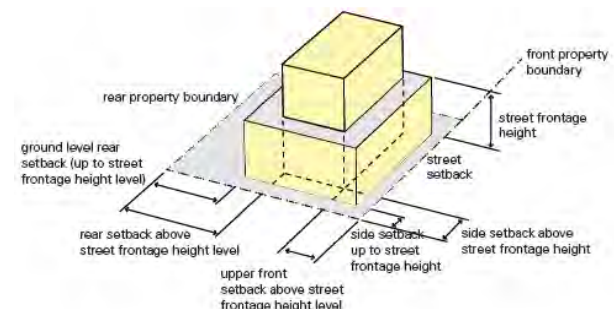


TABLE 1 - MINIMUM SETBACK DISTANCES FROM PROPERTY BOUNDARY WITHIN THE COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE AREA

Zone	Building height and use	Minimum side setback	Minimum rear setback
Commercial Core (B3)	Up to maximum SFH* Above maximum SFH* Above 20m	0m 5m 12m	0m**, 4m 5m 12m
Mixed Use (B4)	Non-residential uses: -Up to maximum SFH* -Above maximum SFH*	0m 5m	0m**, 4m 5m
	Residential uses up to 8.5m in height:	3m	3m
	Residential uses over 8.5m in height:	4.5m	4.5m
Low Density Residential (R2)		900mm (from walls) 675mm (to outer edge of roof gutter and eaves)	900mm (from walls) 675mm (to outer edge of roof gutter and eaves)
High Density Residential (R4) ***	Up to 12m height:	3m	3m
	Over 12m and up to 24m in height:	6m	6m
	Over 24m in height:	9m	9m
Industrial (IN1)		3m	3m
All other zones	Non-residential uses: -up to 12m -above 12m	3m 6m	3m 6m

Medium Density:

In the R3 Medium Density Residential zone that is contained in the Coffs Harbour Jetty Area.

- A 3.5 metre front setback from the front boundary applies to single storey buildings and an additional 1.5 metre setback applies for every additional storey. Additional storeys over and above the second storey are to be included within a 30° building plane measured from the horizontal and taken from the corner of the second storey.
- Buildings are to be setback six metres from side and rear boundaries, reduced to three metres where the building height is two storeys or less.

The following setbacks apply to lands in the remainder of the R3 zone:

- buildings are to be setback nine metres from front boundaries, with a permitted encroachment to six metres for buildings with a height less than 8.5 metres (i.e. not more than two storeys);
- buildings are to be setback six metres from side and rear boundaries, with a permitted encroachment to three metres for buildings with a height less than 8.5 metres (i.e. not more than two storeys).

Note: Lands zoned R1, R2, R4, B6, IN1 and Special Areas have a 6 metre front setback unless specified otherwise.

Note: Front, side and rear setbacks for lands zoned B1, B2, B5, SP1, SP2 and SP3 are merit based.

Note: Lands zoned B3 and B4 generally have a zero setback for front, side and rear boundaries. Street frontage height requirements may also be relevant and are addressed in E3.3.2(c).

Note: The “Jetty” area is the area bounded by the railway line, Coffs Creek, Howard Street and Hogbin Drive.

Note: Council will determine the primary address for the development and apply the front setback to that part of the development. In assessing the primary address and establishing setback requirements, it is necessary to consider topography, bushfire requirements and/or other features including existing development on the site. Any setback must not create amenity impacts for adjoining properties or future amenity impacts on the subject site.

Note:

**SFH=Street frontage height*

***Zero rear setback permitted in the Commercial Core and Mixed Use zones adjacent to a rear laneway.*

****This control also applies to taller medium density housing*

Note: Buildings can be built to side and rear boundaries (zero setbacks in residential zones) where:

- the building has maximum boundary wall height of 3m, unless matching an existing or simultaneously constructed wall;
- satisfactory legal arrangements for maintenance of boundary walls are in place;
- there is no adverse impact upon the amenity (such as overshadowing, loss of privacy, visual bulk, etc of the adjoining properties);
- there is no interruption to overland drainage paths;
- there are no openings in the boundary wall; and
- the wall is of fire rated masonry construction or other material based upon a performance test.

Council may consider reducing setback requirements where it can be demonstrated that it is necessary because of topography, bushfire requirements and or other features including existing development on the site. Any reduced setback must not create amenity impacts for adjoining properties or future amenity impacts on the subject land.



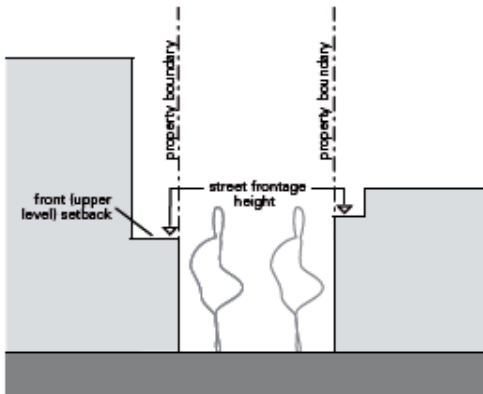
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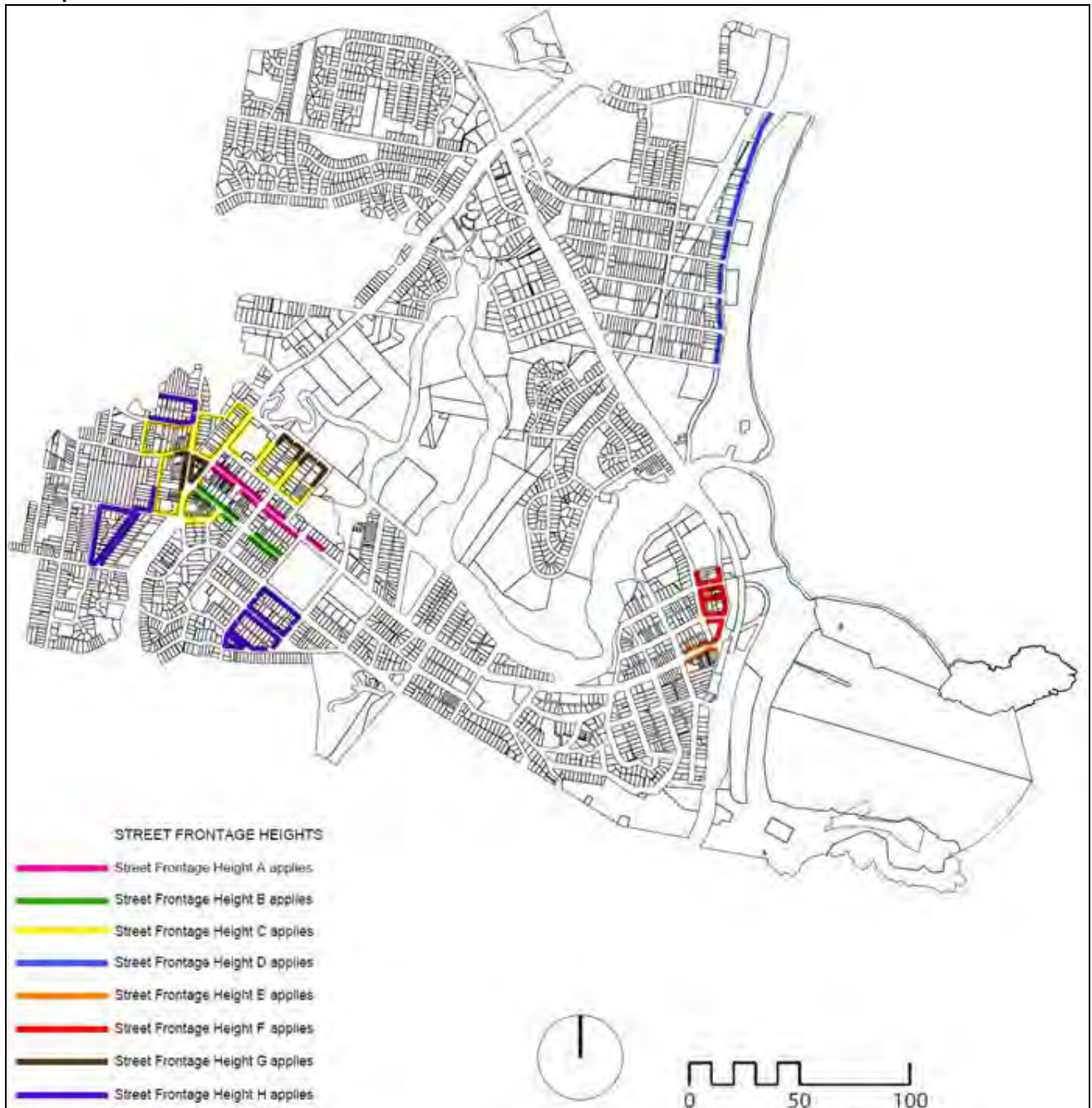
c) Street Frontage Heights

- i) Street frontage heights refers to the height of the building that directly addresses the public street from the ground level up to the first (if any) upper setback (refer to Figure 2).
- ii) Buildings are to comply with street frontage heights indicated in Map 4 and illustrated in Figures 3 to 10.

FIGURE 2 - GENERIC STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHTS



MAP 4 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHTS



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Attachment 3

FIGURE 3 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHT A

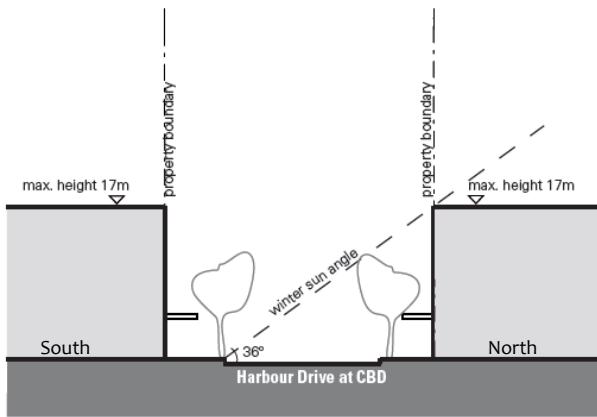


FIGURE 4 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHT B

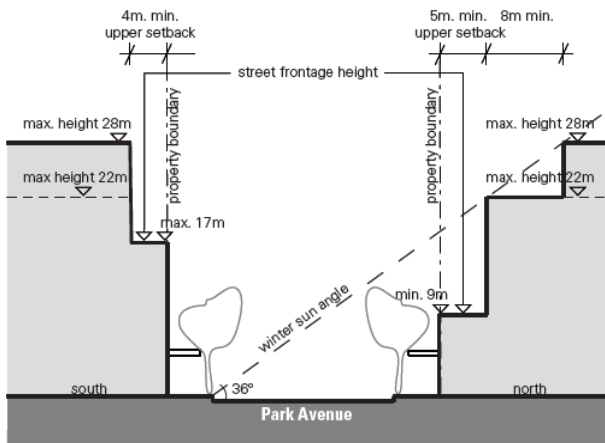


FIGURE 5 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHT C

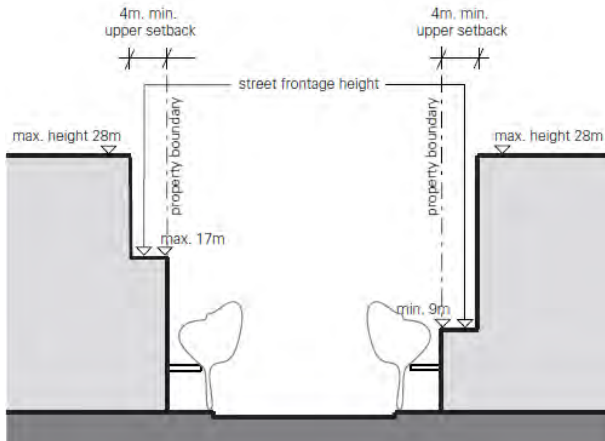


FIGURE 6 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHT D

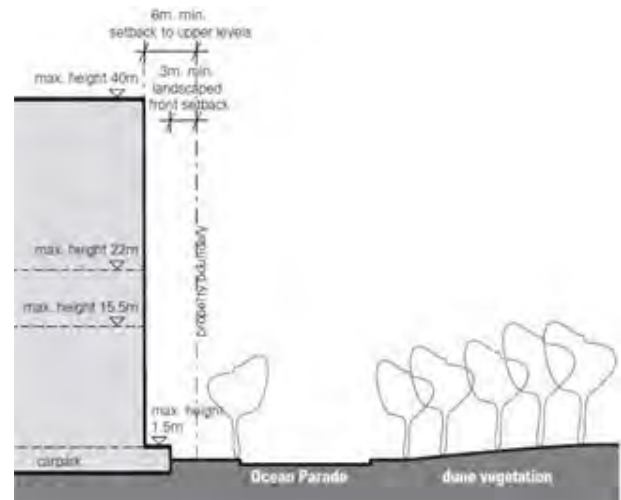


FIGURE 7 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHT E

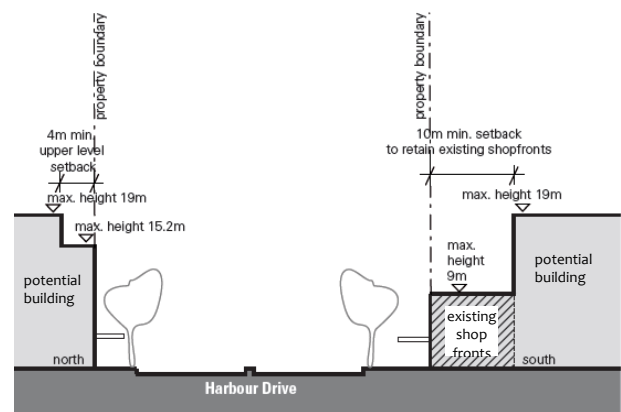


FIGURE 8 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHT F

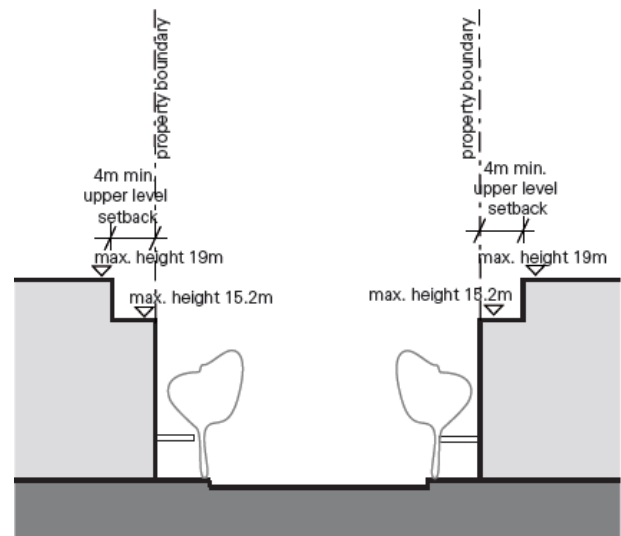


FIGURE 9 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHT G

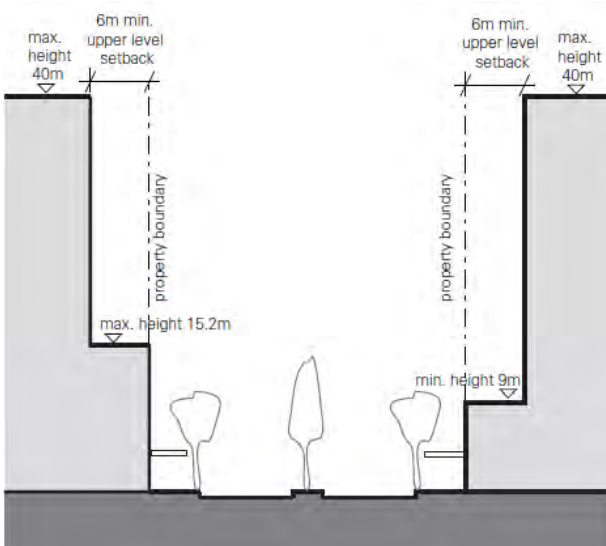
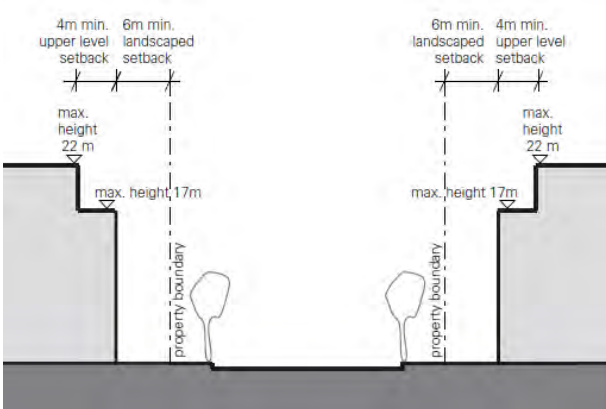


FIGURE 10 - STREET FRONTAGE HEIGHT H



d) Building Depth and Bulk

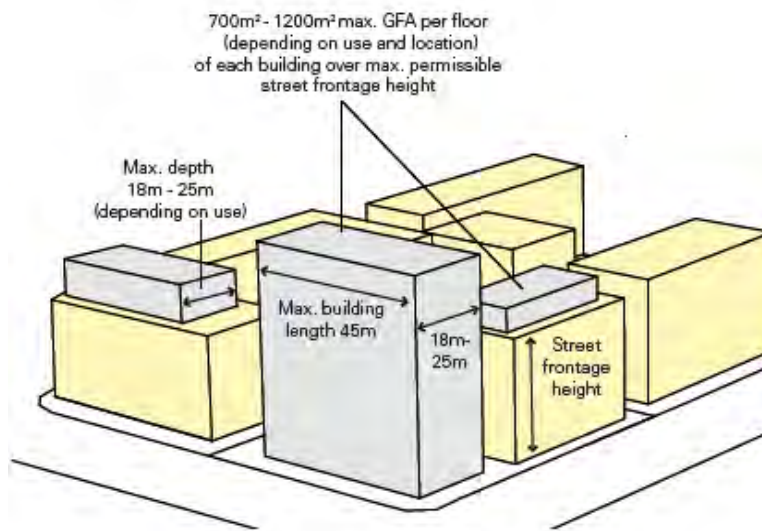
- i) The maximum GFA per floor and depth of buildings are specified in Table 2 and illustrated in Figure 11.
- ii) Where no street frontage is specified in Map 4 and the building height exceeds 22 metres, the maximum GFA per floor must comply with Table 2.



TABLE 2 - MAXIMUM BUILDING DEPTH AND GFA PER FLOOR

Land Use Zone	Building Use	Condition	Maximum GFA per Floor	Maximum Building Depth (excludes Balconies)
Commercial Core	Non-residential	Above SFH	1,200m ²	25m
	Residential and serviced apartments	Above SFH	900m ²	18m
Mixed use	Non-residential	Above SFH	900m ²	25m
	Residential and serviced apartments	Above SFH	700m ²	18m
Residential and other zones	All uses	Above SFH	700m ²	18m

FIGURE 11 - BUILDING DEPTH AND BULK CONTROLS



E3.3 PEDESTRIAN AMENITY

E3.3.1 Objectives

1. To promote pedestrian activation of streets and public spaces.
2. To provide shelter on public streets where most pedestrian activity occurs.
3. To provide for pedestrian amenity and safety.
4. To maximise active street frontages in the Coffs Harbour City Centre.

a) Permeability

- i) Through site links, arcades, shared ways and laneways are to be provided as shown in Map 5.
- ii) Where possible, existing dead end lanes are to be extended through to the next street as redevelopment occurs.
- iii) New through site links should be connected with existing and proposed development through block lanes, shared zones, arcades and pedestrian ways, and other through site links.
- iv) Existing publicly and privately owned lanes are to be retained.
- iv) Through site links for pedestrians are to be provided as shown in Map 5, and:
 - are to be open to the air and publicly accessible (refer to Figure 12);
 - have active frontages or a street address;
 - be clear and direct thoroughfares for pedestrians;
 - have a minimum width of four metres clear of all obstructions (including columns, stairs, etc);
 - have signs, consistent with Component C4, at street entries indicating public accessibility and the street to which the through site link connects; and

- when open at night they are to be appropriately lit.

v) Arcades are to:

- have active frontages for their length;
- be clear and direct thoroughfares for pedestrians;
- provide public access at all business trading times;
- have a minimum width of four metres clear of all obstructions (including columns, stairs and escalators);
- where practical, have access to natural light for at least 30% of their length;
- where air conditioned, have clear glazed entry doors comprising at least 50% of the entrance; and
- have signs at street entries indicating public accessibility and the street to which the through site links.
- Internal arcades will not be approved in preference to the activation of an existing or required pedestrian link or lane.

vi) Lanes are to:

- have active frontages;
- be clear and direct thoroughfares for pedestrians;
- provide public access at all times or as otherwise stipulated by Council's conditions of consent;
- have a minimum width of six metres clear of all obstructions; and
- have signage indicating public accessibility and the street to which the lane connects.

vii) Where lanes are primarily used for building access and servicing, *Crime Prevention through Environmental Design* principles must be demonstrated (refer to Section C1.4 of this DCP).

viii) Provide consistent design and use high quality materials where possible.



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MAP 5 - PERMEABILITY

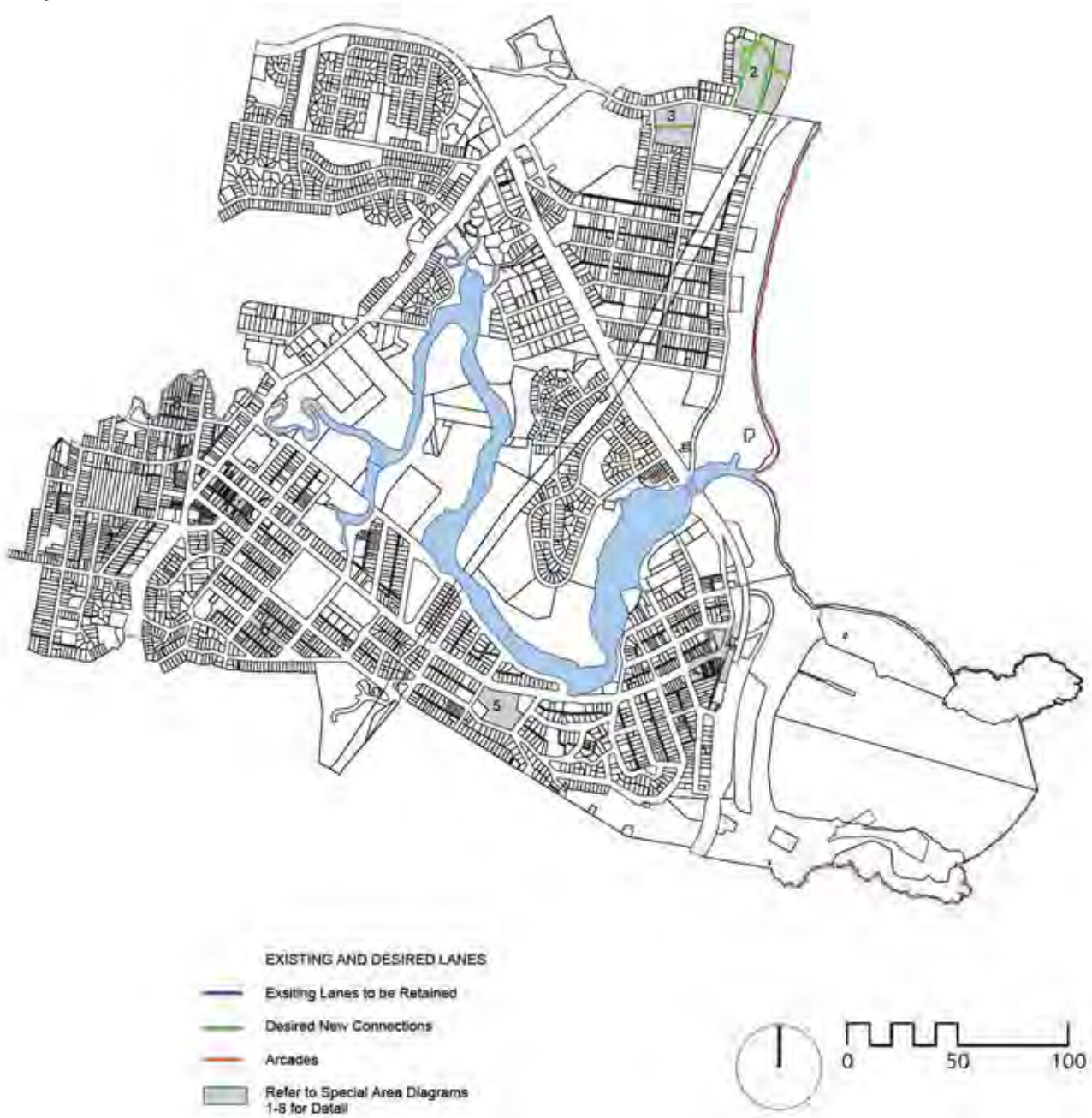


FIGURE 12 - EXAMPLE OF AN ACTIVE PEDESTRIAN LINK



b) Active Street Frontages and Street Address

Active street frontages promote an interesting and safe pedestrian environment. Busy pedestrian areas and non-residential uses such as shops, studios, offices, cafés, recreation and promenade opportunities promote the most active street frontages (refer to Figure 13).

FIGURE 13 – EXAMPLE OF AN ACTIVE STREET FRONTAGE



i) Active street frontages

- The following uses, or combination of uses, are required to have active street frontages:
 - retail and shop front (with clear glazing) and entrance at street level;
 - glazed entries to commercial and residential lobbies occupying less than 50% of the street frontage, to a maximum of 12 metres frontage;
 - café or restaurant if accompanied by an entry from the street;
 - active office uses, such as reception, if visible from the street; and
 - public building if accompanied by an entry from the street.
- Active street frontages are required on the ground level of all areas identified in Map 6, including adjacent through site links.
- In the B3 Commercial Core and B4 Mixed Use zones active street frontages are required in the form of non-residential uses on the ground level. In addition to the ground level, non-residential active uses are also encouraged at the first floor level in the B3 Commercial Core zone.
- Active ground floor uses are to be at the same general level as the footpath and be accessible directly from the street.
- Where appropriate, restaurants, cafés and the like are to consider providing openable shop fronts.
- Only open grille or transparent security shutters (at least 50% visually transparent) are permitted on retail frontages.

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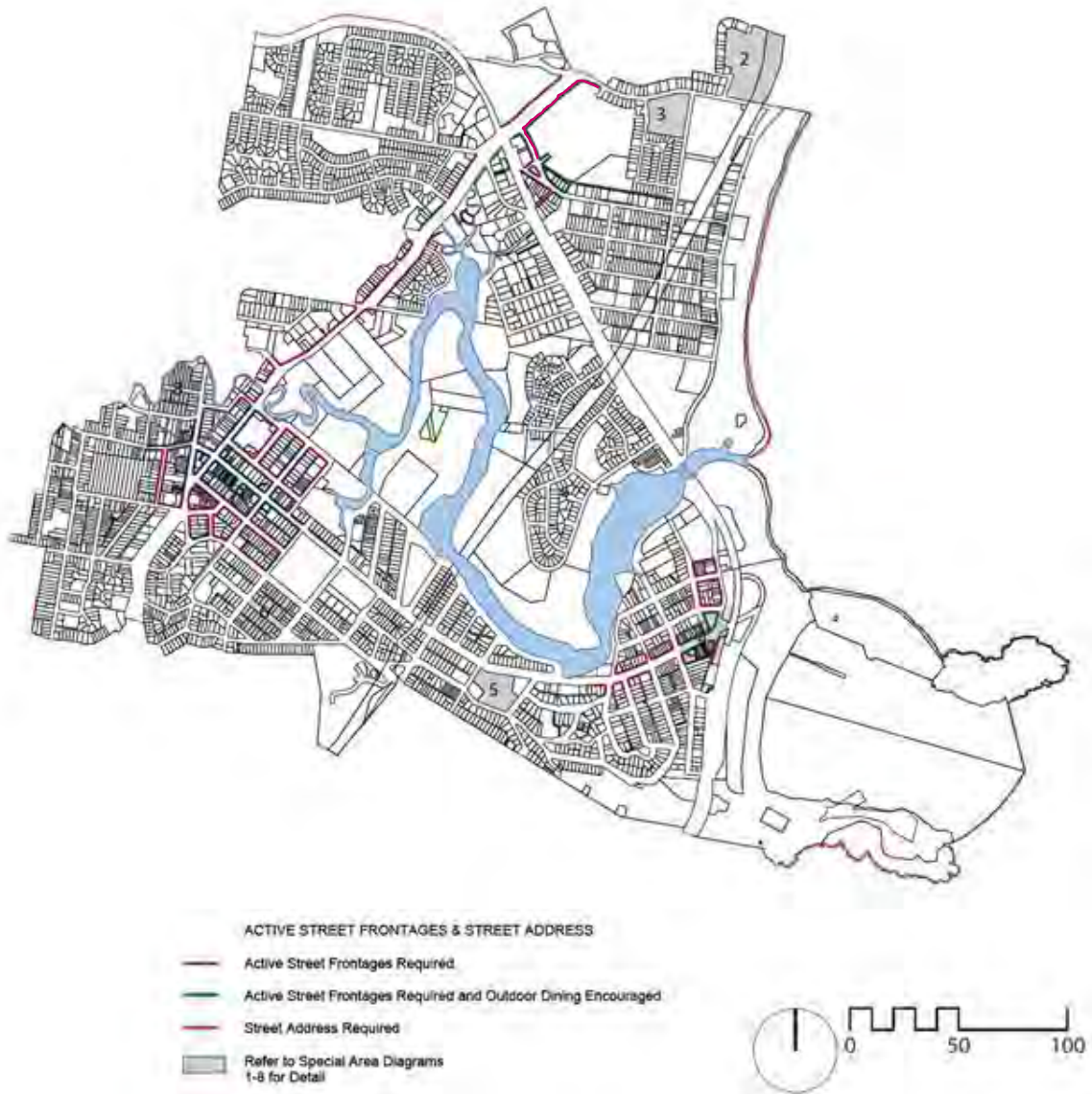
ii) Street Address

- Street address is defined as entries, lobbies, and habitable rooms with clear glazing to the street not more than 1.2 metres above street level where habitable rooms do not have to be raised due to flooding concerns.
- Where habitable rooms are raised about ground level due to flooding concerns, opportunities for casual surveillance from the building to the street must be maintained, and the visual impact at street level of the raised ground level minimized.
- Street address is required on the ground level of buildings as identified in Map 6.
- Residential development is to provide a clear street address and direct pedestrian access off the primary street frontage, and allow for residents to overlook surrounding streets.
- Provide multiple entrances for large developments including an entrance on each street frontage.
- Provide direct ‘front door’ access from ground floor residential units.
- Residential buildings are to provide not less than 65% of the lot width as street address.

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MAP 6 - ACTIVE STREET FRONTAGES AND STREET ADDRESS



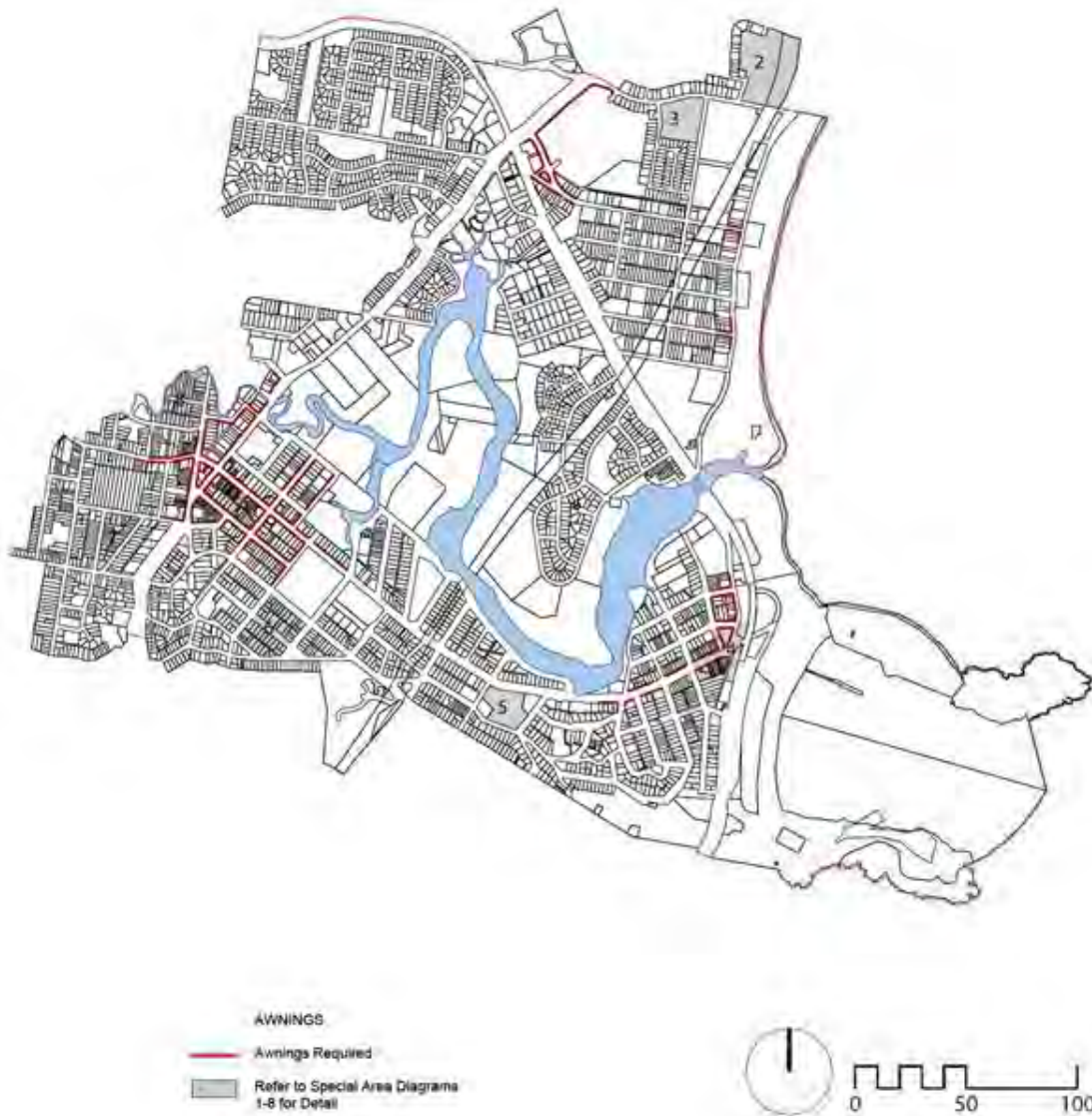
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c) Awnings

- i) Continuous street frontage awnings are to be provided for all new commercial development in the Coffs Harbour City Centre (as indicated in Map 7). Outside these areas weather protection is to be provided at the main entrance to each building.

MAP 7 - STREET AWNINGS



d) Pedestrian Overpasses and Underpasses

- i) New overpasses over streets, and underpasses, will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. New overpasses over service lanes may be considered by the Consent Authority subject to an assessment of impacts on safety and crime prevention, streetscape amenity, and the activation of the public domain. In such circumstances, overpasses are to be fully glazed, not greater than six metres wide or more than one level high.

- ensure that tower buildings are well spaced from each other to allow breezes to penetrate the City Centre;
 - consider the shape, location and height of buildings to satisfy wind criteria for public safety and comfort at ground level; and
 - ensure usability of open terraces and balconies.
- iii) A Wind Effects Report is to be submitted with the DA for all buildings greater than 35 metres in height.

E3.4 WIND MITIGATION

E3.4.1 Objectives

1. To ensure that new development satisfies nominated wind standards and maintains comfortable conditions for pedestrians.
2. To ensure that moderate breezes are able to penetrate the streets of the Coffs Harbour City Centre.

a) Controls

- i) To ensure public safety and comfort, the following maximum wind criteria are to be met by new tall buildings (four storeys or greater):
 - 10 metres/second in retail streets;
 - 13 metres/second along major pedestrian streets, parks and public places; and
 - 16 metres/second in all other streets.
- ii) Site design for tall buildings (towers) should:
 - set tower buildings back from lower structures built at the street frontage to protect pedestrians from strong wind downdrafts at the base of the tower;

E3.5 CONTROLS FOR SPECIAL AREAS

Throughout the City Centre, a number of “special areas” (refer Map 8) have been identified in recognition of their location, attributes, size and development potential.

E3.5.1 Objectives

1. To ensure that the identified “special areas” within the Coffs Harbour City Centre area are developed in an appropriate and sensitive manner.

E3.5.2 Controls

a) City Square

i) Links and connections

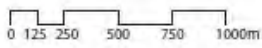
- The pedestrian link connecting the Square to Park Avenue is to be lined on both sides with active frontages.
- Vehicle access from Park Avenue Lane is to be restricted adjacent to the Square in order to improve pedestrian amenity and allow for active frontages on the southern side of the Square. This section should be paved to indicate a shared surface area.





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MAP 8 - SPECIAL AREA CONTROLS



LEGEND:

-  DCP area
-  Special areas

- 1 City Square
- 2 Arthur Street East
- 3 Arthur Street West
- 4 Jetty Village
- 5 Former Hospital Site
- 6 Albany Street High Density Residential
- 7 McLean Street High Density Residential
- 8 Coffs Creek High Density Residential

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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ii) Built form

- New buildings in the area are to take the form of edge-defining mixed use podium buildings with active frontages at street level. Residential development will have an upper level setback on the eastern and western sides of the Square.
- Winter sun access to the Square will be maintained through the use of an upper level setback, as shown in Figure 14 and 15.

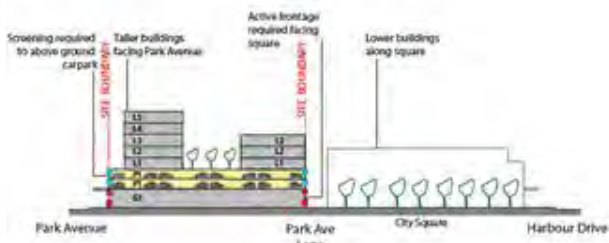
iii) Public domain interface

- Ground level active frontages and outdoor dining are to be maintained along the Square. Active frontages are to be provided as shown in Figure 15.
- Vehicle and service access should be confined to Park Lane. No driveways are to be constructed adjacent to the Square.

FIGURE 15 - CITY SQUARE DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS



FIGURE 14 - CITY SQUARE SECTION AA



b) Arthur Street East Area

i) Links and connections

- Provide a street layout that will link the new development into the surrounding street network. A hierarchy of streets should be devised according to the importance of each connection.
- Street design is to incorporate traffic management to cater for topography and local connectivity.
- Roads should be located to minimise impacts on existing vegetation.
- Pedestrian connections should be provided through public open spaces.

ii) Public space

- Provide a new central public space located to maximise the preservation of existing vegetation, as shown in Figure 16.

iii) Built form

- Setbacks are to be provided in accordance with Table 1 and are to be maintained to all street frontages.

iv) Public domain interface

- In order to maximise the extent of deep soil zones, underground parking should be confined to the building footprints as shown in Figure 16. The number of driveway entrances is to be minimised.

FIGURE 16 - ARTHUR STREET EAST DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS



c) Arthur Street West Area

i) Links and Connections

- A new local street should be provided to connect York Street and San Francisco Avenue.
- San Francisco Avenue should be extended to connect Arthur Street and Columbus Circuit.

ii) Built Form

- Development is to accord with the Height of Buildings Map in LEP 2013 and must be set back from the street by a minimum of six metres as shown in Table 1.
- Underground car parking may protrude above ground by a maximum of 1.5 metres, but must be screened from the street by landscaping.

FIGURE 17 - ARTHUR STREET WEST DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS



d) Jetty Village

i) Links and connections

- Provide a new mid-block crossing on Harbour Drive as illustrated in Figure 18.
- Provide a widened footpath and pedestrian connection between Edgar Street and Harbour Drive.
- Improve pedestrian movement at the intersection of Marina Drive and Orlando Street.

ii) Public space

- The redesign of the intersection of Harbour Drive, Orlando Street and Marina Drive and the incorporation of pedestrian crossings should allow for the creation of an enlarged public plaza on the southeast corner of the intersection.

iii) Built form

- Shop top housing is encouraged. Mixed use developments are generally to take the form of edge-defining podium buildings with an upper level setback to residential development (see Figure 18).
- Buildings are to be designed to take advantage of views without significantly compromising the views from surrounding buildings, in particular residential buildings.
- Colours textures and materials of buildings and landscape elements

shall reflect the character of the coast, harbour and beaches. Suggested colours are blues, greens and lighter shades.

- Buildings are to occupy the footprints and envelopes shown in Figure 18 in order to preserve the view corridor toward the harbour along the axis of Harbour Drive and Marina Drive.
- There is a potential for a distinctive, high quality design at the south east end of Harbour Drive to mark the gateway to the precinct. The building should be designed to maintain sight lines to the harbour and the beach. Refer to Figure 18.
- Development adjacent to the railway line is to incorporate mitigation measures designed to reduce the impact of noise and vibration from trains.

iv) Public domain interface

- Laneways are to provide vehicle and service access as shown in Figure 18. No new driveways are to be constructed off Harbour Drive.
- Surface car parking is to be confined to the rear of buildings as shown in Figure 18.
- Improvements to Harbour Drive are to include enhanced street tree planting and widened footpaths to allow space for outdoor dining.
- All buildings are to address the street with ground level active frontages where indicated on Figure 18.

v) Landscaping

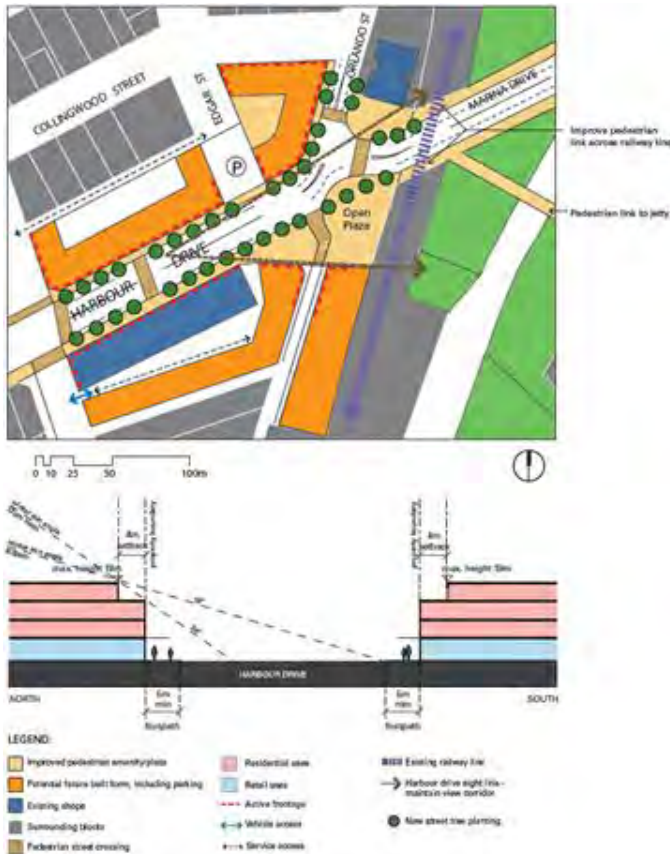
- A landscape plan prepared by a qualified landscape architect or designer is to be submitted showing existing trees and proposed landscaping (see Component C3).



vi) Heritage

- The Coffs Harbour Jetty Post Office is listed as a heritage item. Development at the Post Office (350 Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour) and adjoining sites shall comply with the principles described in Component B6 of this DCP.

FIGURE 18 - JETTY VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS



e) Former Coffs Hospital Site

i) Built form

- Buildings fronting all surrounding streets should be a maximum in height in accordance with LEP 2013 with generous setbacks to the maximum height of buildings in the centre of the site, as illustrated in Figure 18.
- The length of the building facades should be broken up to preserve view corridors to the north towards the sea.

ii) Public domain interface

- All car parking should be contained within the building footprints to achieve good address to the streets and private open space.
- The development should be built to the level of the street with buildings oriented to address local streets
- Entries and fences should be designed to provide direct access and encourage the activation of surrounding streets.

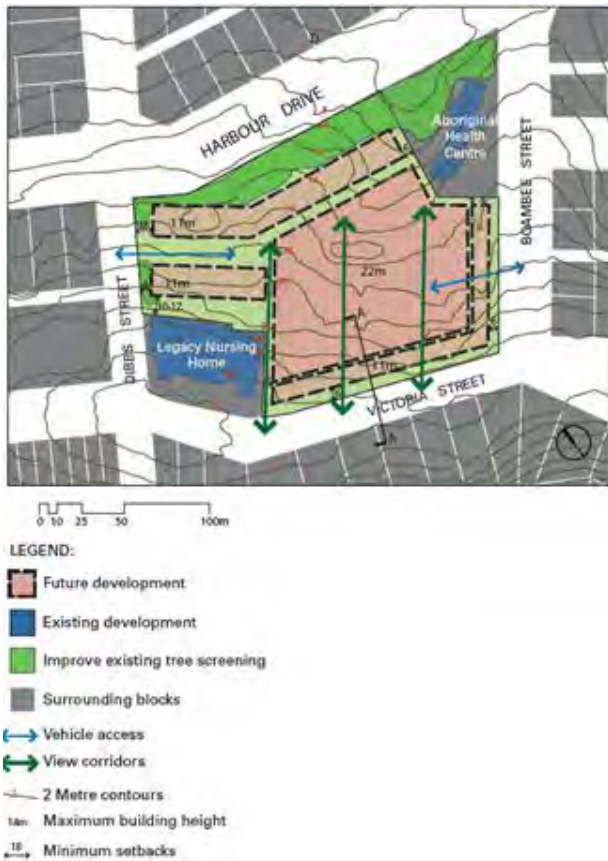
iii) Vehicle access

- Vehicle access should be limited to Boambee and Dibbs Streets.

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FIGURE 19 - FORMER HOSPITAL SITE DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS



f) Albany Street High Density Residential

i) Amalgamation

- To achieve good development, consolidation of at least two lots is recommended, where practicable (refer to Figure 20).

ii) Access and Connections

- Vehicular access shall be provided from rear lanes to improve street address on Albany, Bonville and Avenue Streets.
- Laneways are to be constructed, widened and improved, where needed, by the developer.
- No vehicular access is to be provided from Albany and Earl Streets.
- Footpaths shall be constructed along the full length of street frontages.

iii) Built form

- Front, side and rear setbacks are to be provided as shown in Table 1.

iv) Public domain interface

- A minimum landscaped front setback of six metres shall be provided.
- Exposed portions of below grade car parking are to be screened from the street as shown in Figures 21 and 22.

FIGURE 20 - ALBANY STREET HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS



Note: Development on land that is not flood liable is encouraged as well as the consolidation of high density allotments, where practicable.



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FIGURE 21 - FRONT BOUNDARY TREATMENT

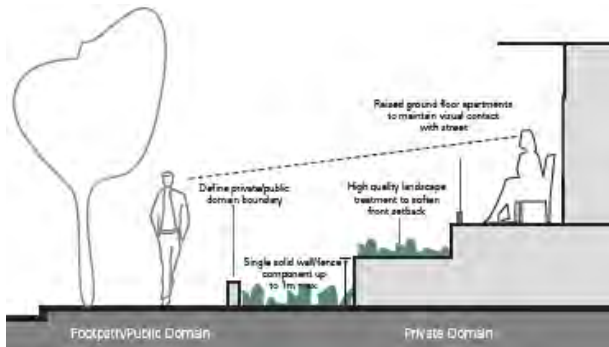


FIGURE 22 - EXAMPLES OF FRONT BOUNDARY TREATMENTS



g) McLean Street High Density Residential

i) Amalgamation

- To achieve good development, consolidation of lots is recommended, where practicable (refer to Figure 23).

ii) Access and connections

- Footpaths shall be constructed along the full length of street frontages.
- The vista down McLean Street from the east shall be enhanced through the provision of boulevard street tree planting.

iii) Built form

- Front, side and rear setbacks are to be provided as shown in Table 1.

iv) Public domain interface

- A minimum landscaped front setback of six metres shall be provided.
- Exposed portions of below grade car parking are to be screened from the street as shown in Figures 21 and 22.

FIGURE 23 - MCLEAN STREET HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS



Note: Development on land that is not flood liable is encouraged as well as the consolidation of high density allotments, where practicable.

h) Coffs Creek High Density Residential

i) Amalgamation

- To achieve good development, consolidation of lots is recommended, where practicable (refer to Figure 24).

ii) Access and connections

- Sites with frontage to Scarba Street or the southern side of Korff Street shall provide vehicle access only from the rear laneway.
- The laneway parallel to Scarba Street is to be constructed, widened and improved by the developer.

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- Footpaths shall be constructed along the full length of street frontages. Footpaths should connect to the creek walking trail.
- Development of lots adjoining Coffs Creek is subject to dedication of future parkland. This will provide a continuous walking trail along the creek for the length of the precinct. In addition, linkages across the creek and to Moonee Street will also be established

iii) Built form

- Front, side and rear setbacks are to be provided as shown in Figure 24, and in Table 1.
- Building design, materials and choice of colours shall be compatible with the natural setting of the precinct.

iv) Public domain interface

- A minimum landscaped front setback of six metres shall be provided. Existing Poinciana trees should be supplemented by plantings along the street frontage of new development. Dense landscaping in front setback areas shall be provided to create a continuation of the natural setting of the creek.
- Exposed portions of below grade car parking are to be screened from the street as shown in Figures 21 and 22.

v) Flood Planning

- Development of the land can only be approved if:
 - it will not adversely affect flood behaviour of the area and will not result in increased flood affectation on other properties;
 - it incorporates mitigation measures to manage risk to life and property from flood; and
 - it satisfies the flood planning controls in Council’s Flooding and Coastal Hazards Information Sheet.

FIGURE 24 - COFFS CREEK HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS



Note: Development on land that is not flood liable is encouraged as well as the consolidation of high density allotments, where practicable.

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E5 KORORA LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL

Applies to

Lands in the Korora Release Area zoned for large lot residential under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

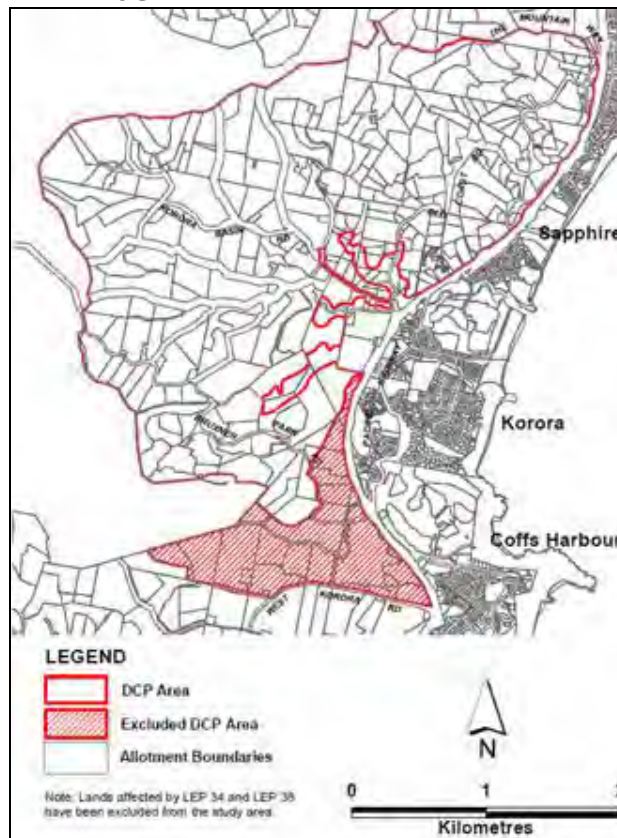
Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides detailed guidelines and planning controls for large lot residential development in the Korora Release Area.

MAP 1 - LOCALITY



DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
- COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B3 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B4 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B6 POST EUROPEAN HERITAGE REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B7 BIODIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

PART C - ISSUE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT C1 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C2 ACCESS, PARKING AND SERVICING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C3 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C4 ADVERTISING SIGNS REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C5 SEX SERVICES PREMISES REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C6 MINOR EARTHWORKS REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C8 INTEGRATED (NATURAL) WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART D - HAZARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- COMPONENT D1 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT E1 COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL AIRPORT
- COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK
- COMPONENT E3 COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE
- COMPONENT E4 HEARNES LAKE / SANDY BEACH
- COMPONENT E5 KORORA LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL
- COMPONENT E6 MOONEE
- COMPONENT E7 NORTH BOAMBEE VALLEY (EAST)
- COMPONENT E8 NORTH BONVILLE
- COMPONENT E9 SAWTELL VILLAGE PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E10 SOUTH COFFS
- COMPONENT E11 WEST COFFS
- COMPONENT E12 WEST WOOLGOOLGA
- COMPONENT E13 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
- COMPONENT E14 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E15 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

- COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
- COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

E5.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E5.1.1 Objectives

1. To provide a framework for a community that is sustainable, safe and vibrant.
2. To provide an overall plan for the area that enables the integration of existing and proposed development.

E5.1.2 Masterplan

- Develop rural residential development with an ultimate population of approximately 1,500 people.
- Maintain a distinctive neighbourhood (rural) character for the area as shown on the masterplan in Map 2.
- Require development to conform to the planning controls listed in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

E5.1.3 Housing Strategy

- Allow for subdivision, dwelling houses, attached dual occupancies and tourist facilities.
- Encourage development of a neighbourhood centre incorporating cultural, recreational and low key commercial facilities.

E5.1.4 Servicing Strategy

- Ensure that water is supplied from rainwater collection tanks servicing the individual sites or by other means to Council's satisfaction.
- Ensure that sewage is collected, treated and disposed of by approved on site systems

E5.1.5 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Establish a road hierarchy that avoids the Highway being used for local trips within the Korora area.
- Design a roadway environment to reflect the road hierarchy.
- Implement road-widening strategy eg widening of the Old Coast Road, part of Rowsells Road and Finlays Road. This is shown on Map 3.
- Widen and upgrade Bruxner Park Road and install safety barriers where required.
- Provide Intersection Treatment - several intersections require upgrading and are indicated on Map 3.
- Properties in the DCP that area are constrained by access issues are shown on Map 2.

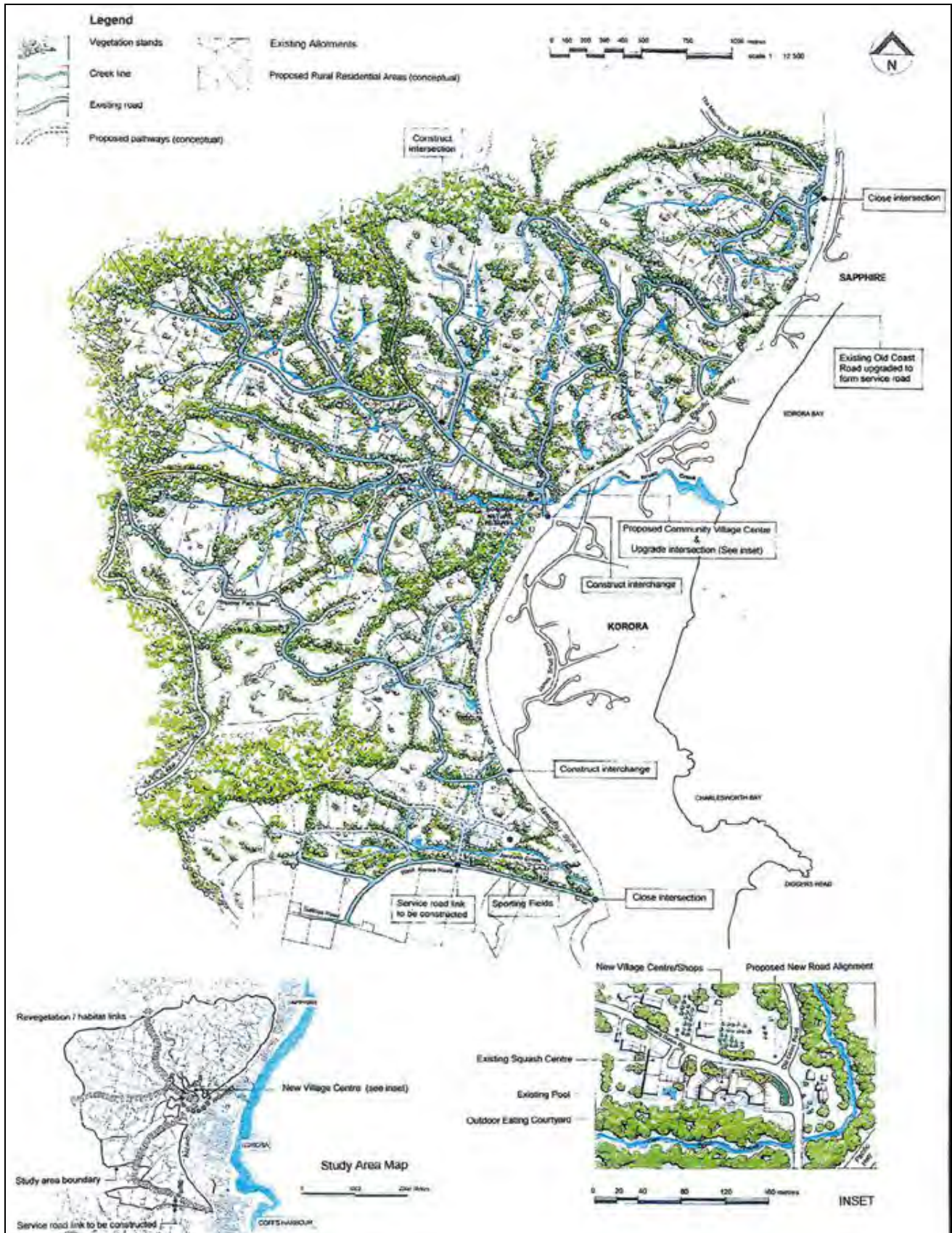
E5.1.6 Community Facilities

- Ensure that social infrastructure needs are based on an anticipated population of 1,500 persons, which includes the existing population.
- Ensure that development caters for the recreational needs of the population (existing and expected), including the provision of a sports ground.
- Provide pedestrian/cycle links to main community facilities and recreation facilities.

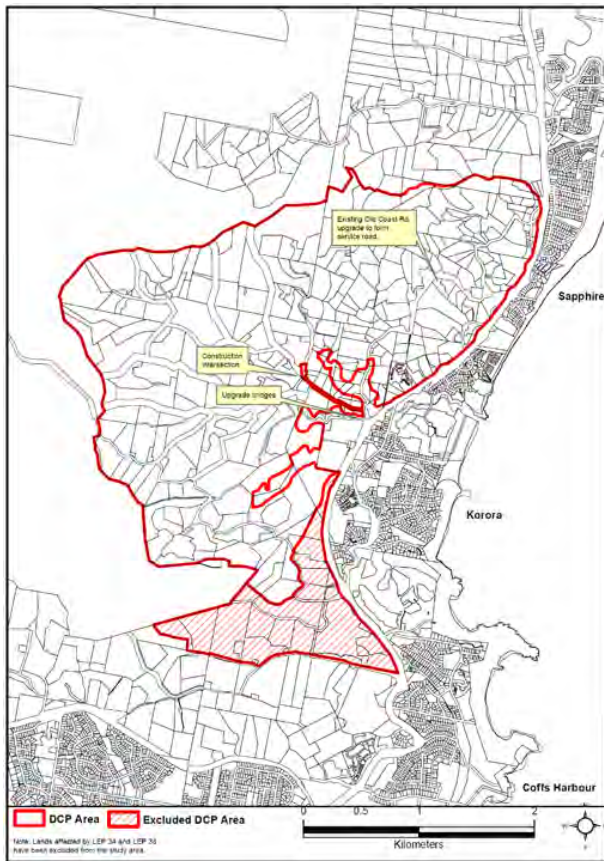
E5.1.7 Business Strategy

- Provide for low key commercial development including a mix of retail, commercial and tourist development.
- Ensure that buildings are limited to two storeys to maintain a low scale character in keeping with the existing rural character.

MAP 2 - MASTERPLAN



MAP 3 - ROAD WIDENING AND UPGRADING STRATEGY



E5.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E5.2.1 Objectives

1. To encourage tourist development which is innovative, responsive to the site’s visual, environmental and cultural characteristics and be in keeping with the desired future character of the area.
2. To have a neutral impact upon the water quality in Pine Brush Creek and to minimise impacts upon the flora and fauna resources and natural setting of the area.
3. To provide safe, convenient and efficient movement of people.
4. To protect and maintain natural bushland, native habitats and koala populations, including revegetation of linkages.
5. To provide for the collection, treatment and on-site disposal of sewage using methods which satisfy the environmental, health and operational expectations of the community.

E5.1.8 Natural Environment Strategy

- Establish vegetated buffers to the creeks.
- Maintain significant regional vegetation and minimise the risks associated with bushfires.
- Utilise best management practices to minimise on-site soil erosion and water pollution.
- Develop wildlife corridors by revegetating or planting those vegetation species which will promote biodiversity.

E5.1.9 Landscape and Recreation Strategy

- Protect and maintain significant and/or important native vegetation.
- Provide for a sports ground.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

6. To provide a secure, potable water supply.
7. To ensure stormwater is effectively disposed of utilising best management practices.
8. To reduce the impact of agricultural related activities on adjoining lands.
9. To ensure satisfactory waste management services are available for the release area.
10. To minimise environmental risk hazard associated with building on steep land in the release area.

E5.2.2 Controls

a) General

- i) Development is to comply with the planning strategies outlined in E5.1 above, and the controls contained in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

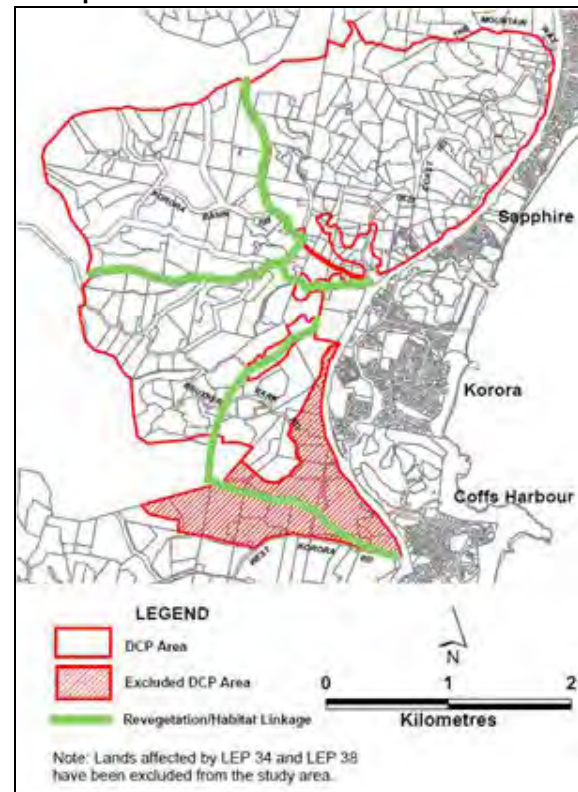
b) Road and Access Design

- i) Relevant Development Applications are to implement the road widening and upgrading strategy as shown in Map 3.
- ii) Prior to preparing a development application, owners shall check with the Council or their consultants to find out the extent of road/access upgrading that will be required prior to subdivision approval.
- iii) No new access points will be permitted directly to/from the Pacific Highway.
- iv) Access arrangements to the proposed lots from a public road, all required road works and internal private driveways are to be designed to Councils standards (refer Component C2.3.2(d)(ii)).

c) Vegetation and Habitat

- i) Each lot created by a large lot residential subdivision shall include a building envelope of 1,500m² situated outside any E2 zone.
- ii) Any road construction shall avoid land in the E2 zone that is koala habitat. If there is no feasible alternative, compensatory planting of trees must be provided.

MAP 4 - REVEGETATION OF HABITAT LINKS



d) Compensatory Works

- i) Much of the land to which this Component applies has become degraded as a consequence of past practices including clearing and lack of weed control. Accordingly an outline for a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) must be prepared for each proposed large lot residential subdivision and must be lodged for preliminary approval when the development application (DA) for that subdivision proposal is lodged (refer to Component B7)
- ii) Before a Subdivision Certificate regarding an approved large lot residential subdivision is issued, a detailed VMP must be lodged with Council for approval. All works (other than ongoing maintenance) prescribed by the VMP must be properly effected on each large lot residential lot (refer to Component B7).

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

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- iii) Any consent issued for a large lot subdivision in Korora will be conditioned to require that the developer enter into a positive covenant, created in Council's favour pursuant to [Section 88b Instrument](#) of the [Conveyancing Act 1919](#), ensuring continued compliance with the VMP. The positive covenants must be created and registered on the title to each large lot residential lot in conjunction with registration of the plan creating such lot. The form of the covenants must be in or to the effect of the form approved by Council from time to time.

e) Effluent Disposal

- i) Effluent disposal must meet Council's [On-site Sewer Management Strategy](#).
- ii) Areas unsuitable for on-site effluent disposal are zoned E2 and shown on Map 5.
- iii) Map 5 also shows areas suited for particular types of on-site effluent disposal.

f) Water Supply

- i) Water tanks with sufficient capacity to serve domestic needs shall be provided. This supply is to be separate to water storage provided for fire fighting purposes.
- ii) No bores, wells or spear points are to be located within 250 metres of the nearest effluent disposal system and must be licensed by the Department of Water and Energy.

g) Bananalands Buffers

- i) A 10 metre revegetated buffer is to be provided between existing banana plantations and land to be subdivided or land identified as building envelopes for dwellings.
- ii) Requirements for rural land use conflict as outlined in the Rural Land Use Conflict Information Sheet shall be referred to when preparing relevant DAs.

h) Garbage Service

- i) Council's contractors provide a service to the areas shown on Map 6. Any development proposed outside these areas will require consultation with Council to determine waste management arrangements.

i) Erosion Control

- i) Subdivision and building proposals on land steeper than 20% are to be accompanied by an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for approval by Council prior to the release of a Construction Certificate (refer to Component D1).

j) Tourist Potential

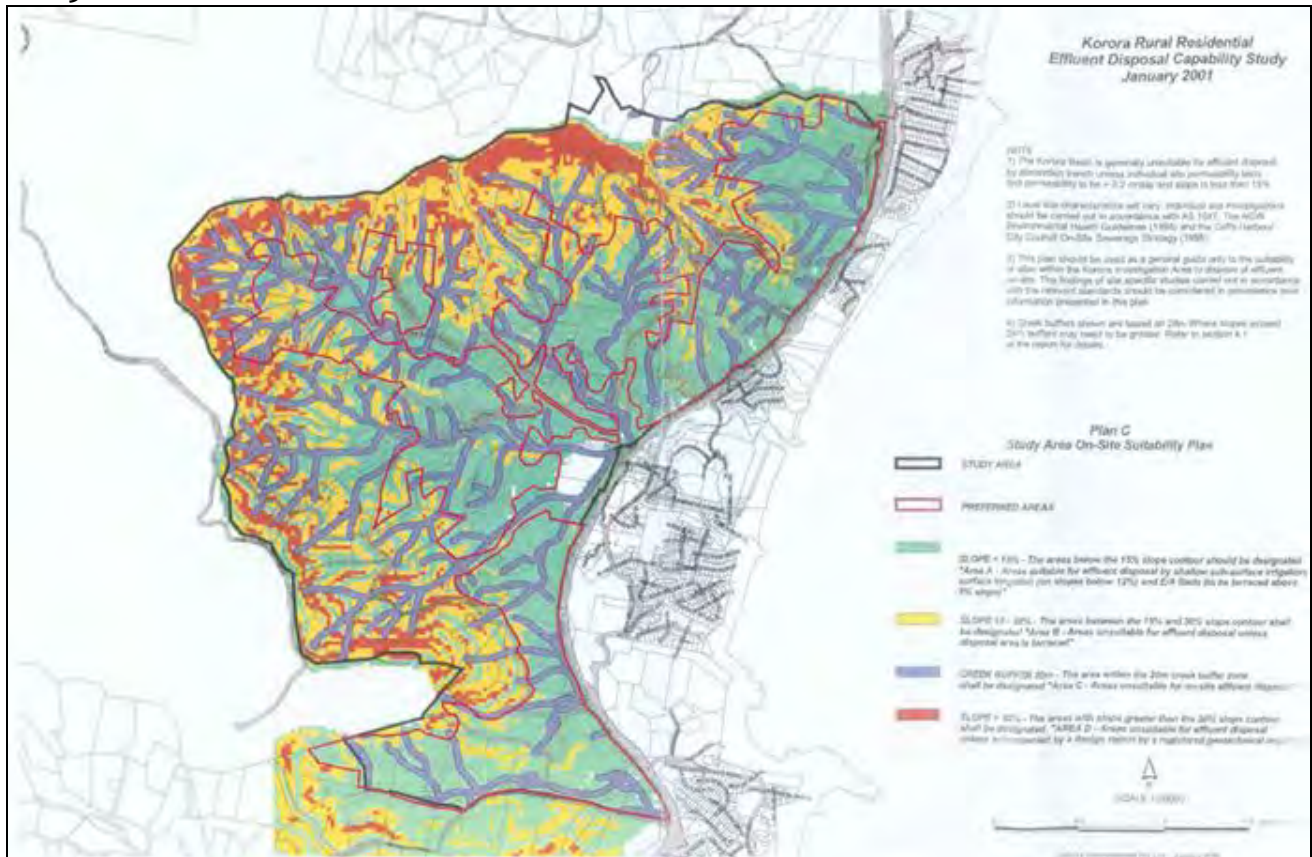
- i) Intensive tourist facilities require merit consideration. Particular attention shall be paid to the following:
 - access;
 - potable water;
 - effluent disposal;
 - impacts on habitat; and
 - bush fire.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

MAP 5 - EFFLUENT DISPOSAL CAPABILITY STUDY



MAP 6 - GARBAGE SERVICE AREAS



COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E7 NORTH BOAMBEE VALLEY (EAST)

Applies to

Lands in the North Boambee Valley, east of the Coffs Harbour Pacific Highway Bypass route area, under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides detailed planning controls for land in the North Boambee Valley Urban Release Area, east of the preferred Coffs Harbour Pacific Highway Bypass route.

MAP1 - LOCALITY



DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
- COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B3 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B4 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B6 POST EUROPEAN HERITAGE REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B7 BIODIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

PART C - ISSUE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT C1 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C2 ACCESS, PARKING AND SERVICING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C3 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C4 ADVERTISING SIGNS REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C5 SEX SERVICES PREMISES REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C6 MINOR EARTHWORKS REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C8 INTEGRATED (NATURAL) WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART D - HAZARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- COMPONENT D1 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT E1 COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL AIRPORT
- COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK
- COMPONENT E3 COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE
- COMPONENT E4 HEARNES LAKE / SANDY BEACH
- COMPONENT E5 KORORA LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL
- COMPONENT E6 MOONEE
- COMPONENT E7 NORTH BOAMBEE VALLEY (EAST)
- COMPONENT E8 NORTH BONVILLE
- COMPONENT E9 SAWTELL VILLAGE PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E10 SOUTH COFFS
- COMPONENT E11 WEST COFFS
- COMPONENT E12 WEST WOOLGOOLGA
- COMPONENT E13 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
- COMPONENT E14 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E15 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

- COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
- COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

E7.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E7.1.1 Objective

1. To provide a framework for a community that is sustainable, safe and vibrant.
2. To achieve a balanced development control system that has sustainable environmental outcomes.
3. Ensure future development has regard to landform, environmental conditions, the surrounding local road network, and the relationship with existing and approved adjoining residential areas (refer to Map 2).

E7.1.2 Masterplan

- Provide for an additional population of approximately 736 persons.
- Ensure that development has regard to existing development consents, land form, environmental conditions of the site, surrounding local road network, and the relationship with adjoining residential areas (refer to Figure 2).
- Require development to conform with the planning controls listed in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

Note: The Roads and Marine Services (RMS) have nominated the preferred Pacific Highway Bypass Route for Coffs Harbour (refer to Figure 1). This alignment impacts upon development in North Boambee Valley (East). An indicative subdivision layout is provided based on the proposed alignment. As the Pacific Highway assessment process progresses, the indicative road boundary may change, requiring the masterplan to be reviewed.

E7.1.3 Housing Strategy

- Ensure that future allotments encourage the provision of accessible, diverse and affordable housing options, while considering existing constraints.
- Ensure that land use incorporates appropriate development, provides safe, convenient and effective neighbourhoods.

E7.1.4 Infrastructure Strategy

- Ensure that the existing community is not burdened by the provision and/or maintenance of public utilities and facilities required as a result of future development.
- Provide a secure, potable water supply, as well as the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage generated by development in a way that meets environmental, health and operational needs of the community.

E7.1.5 Business Strategy

- Maintain and enhance connection between residential, community uses and the Halls Road Business Centre, to serve the daily shopping and service needs of the community.

E7.1.6 Traffic, Transport and Access Strategy

- Provide a street network that is robust (allowing for flexibility for adaptation), links the site to the surrounding residential and employment areas, with a high degree of amenity, connectivity and permeability for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Ensure that transport, access and services are appropriate to the density of development.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

E7.1.7 Natural Environment Strategy

- Ensure that new dwellings support environmentally sensitive design principles.
- Ensure development is consistent with Council's Koala Plan of Management and Vegetation Management Plans.
- Ensure development is consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development by conserving and enhancing the ecological integrity, biodiversity, wildlife corridors, aquatic habitats, water quality, and environmental significance of North Boambee Valley (East).
- Maintain the natural beauty of the area by retaining natural landforms, minimising land excavation and fill, and by minimising erosion and pollution that may impact on the landscape.

E7.1.8 Open Space and Recreation Strategy

- Ensure an open space network is based on clear and accessible connections and promotes equality of access and opportunity.

E7.1.9 Community Centre Strategy

- Provide a community centre for social interaction and recreation, which meets the needs of a diverse and changing community.

E7.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E7.2.1 Objectives

1. To ensure the release area is developed to it's full potential within its environmental capacity.
2. To ensure development occurs in a timely manner when appropriate services are available.
3. To ensure water quality is maintained at acceptable levels to best practice policies.
4. To ensure adequate protection of all forms of cultural heritage in the release area.
5. To protect and enhance environmental protection areas from the potential impacts of future development.
6. To ensure that the impacts of Pacific Highway noise are adequately addressed and appropriate ameliorative measures put in place.
7. To ensure that road design caters for bus access and meets the needs of the community.
8. To provide for the active recreational needs of the community as development occurs.

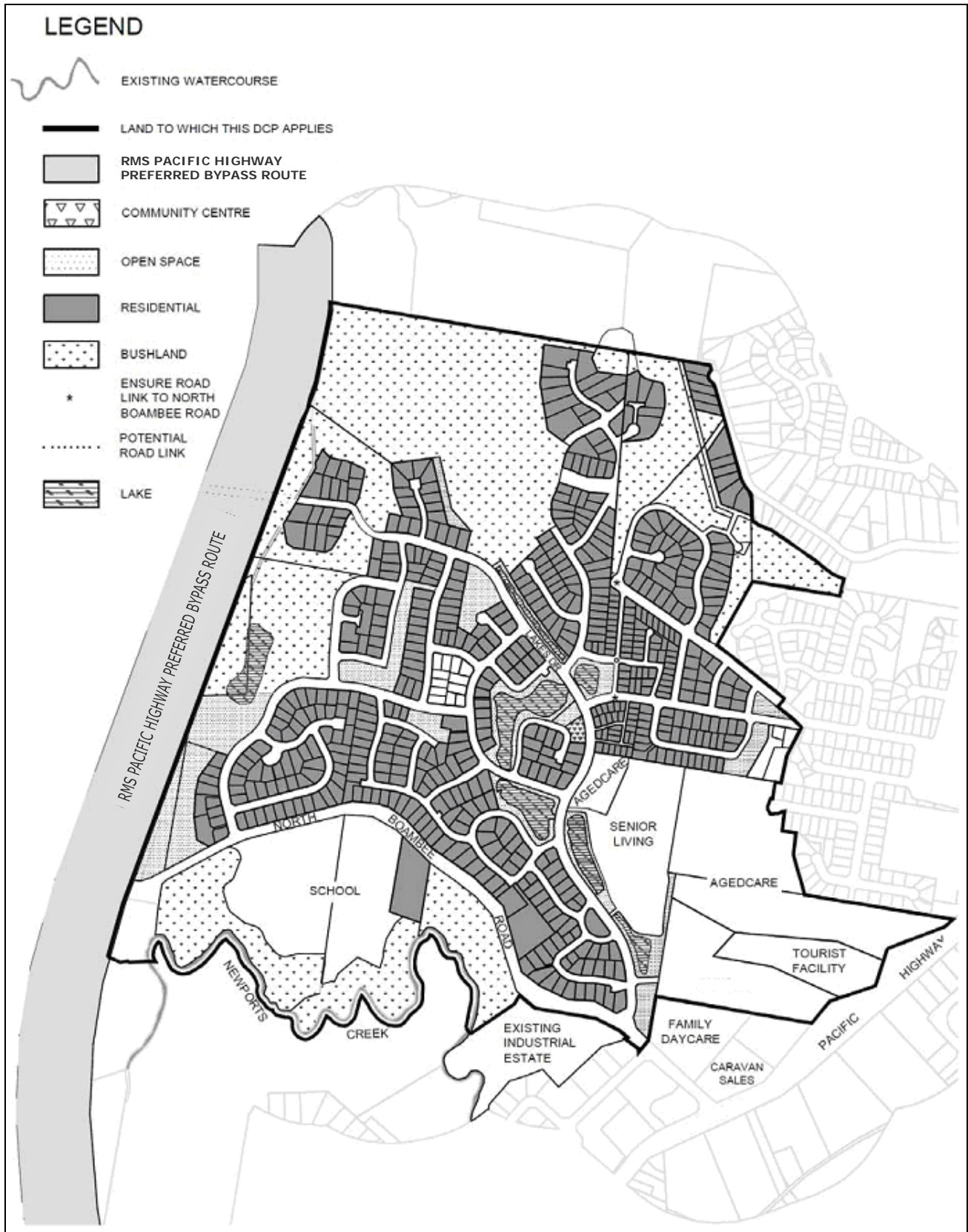
E7.2.2 Controls

a) General

- i) Development is to comply with the planning strategy outlined in E7.1 above, and the controls of this and other relevant Components of this DCP.



MAP 2 - MASTERPLAN



b) Target Densities

- i) The minimum target densities shown in Map 3 are to be achieved for the release area.
- ii) The maximum dwelling yield shall not exceed the target shown in Map 3 by more than 15%.

MAP 3 – MINIMUM TARGET DENSITIES



PRECINCT	TARGET No. OF LOTS
1	97
2	47
3	25
4	113
TOTAL	282

c) Timing of Development

- i) No development is to occur until adequate road access and reticulated water and sewerage services are available.

d) Slope

- i) Council may require the provision of a geotechnical report to verify the suitability of areas within the North Boambee Valley (East) urban release area prior to the commencement of any development. Any areas identified as medium likelihood of instability will require additional detailed geotechnical investigations having regard to development proposals submitted for development consent.
- ii) No structures shall be permitted in areas identified as having a high likelihood of slope instability.

e) Open Space

- i) Open space areas, shown in proposed plans of subdivision, are to accord with Map 4.
- ii) Local parks are to be generally located within a reasonable walking (≤ 500 metres) distance of all residential properties and be 0.5 hectares or larger in area.
- iii) Development of adjacent open space is encouraged to be orientated towards the park to offer casual surveillance.

MAP 4 - OPEN SPACE NETWORK



MAP 5 - KOALA HABITAT



f) Natural and Habitat Areas

- i) Development proposals are to maximise the restoration, retention and preservation of indigenous trees, shrubs and groundcovers, as well as natural features, including rock features and watercourses.
- ii) All development is to incorporate soil conservation measures to minimise soil erosion.
- iii) Development should preserve existing wildlife corridors and provide habitat links between isolated areas through native species selection in new public domain planting.
- iv) Development should incorporate habitat protection measures to protect primary koala habitat trees and, where possible, other trees utilised by koalas in high activity areas (see Map 5).

g) Water Quality

- i) Stormwater detention basins and water quality detention basins are to be integrated as part of the landscape network (refer to Map 2).

h) Road Hierarchy and Access Control

- i) Streets are to be designed in accordance with the street hierarchy identified in Map 6 and shall have regard to function.
- ii) Additional traffic calming measures are to be included on Lophostemon Drive and Halls Road to encourage a low speed traffic environment.
- iii) Roads that cross natural drainage channels are to be constructed using bridges with piered approaches in preference to culverts in order to maintain stream corridor function and be fish friendly.
- iv) A local feeder bus route is to be provided as per Map 7.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

MAP 6 - STREET HIERARCHY



i) Aboriginal Cultural Significance

- i) When preparing an application for subdivision, an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment must be prepared in accordance with the requirements outlined at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licences/achregulation.htm>

j) Compatibility with Adjoining Land Uses

- i) The Rural Land Use Conflicts Information Sheet contains guidelines to minimise rural/urban land use conflicts. Any development application is to include appropriate methods to minimise land use conflicts.

MAP 7 - BUSES, PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLEWAY NETWORK



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E8 NORTH BONVILLE

Applies to

Lands in the North Bonville Release Area under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

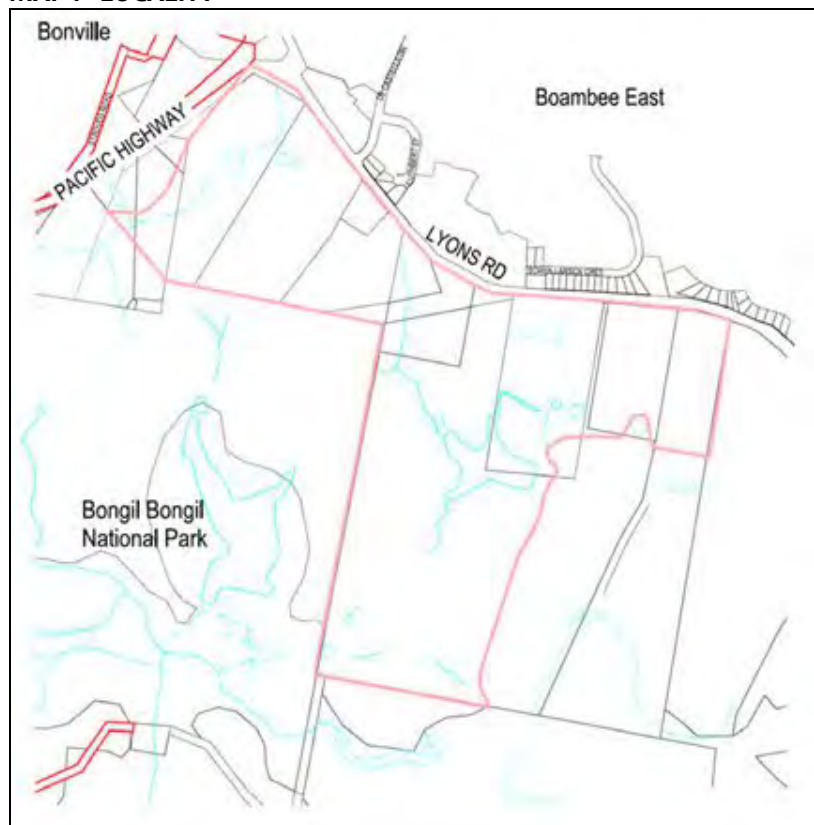
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This Component provides detailed planning controls for the North Bonville Urban Release Area.

MAP 1 - LOCALITY



DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

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PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

- COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
- COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

E8.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E8.1.1 Objectives

1. To provide an overall plan for the area that enables the integration of existing and proposed development.
2. To provide for a variety of housing types and other compatible land uses, protection of residential amenity and a sense of community.
3. To provide a secure, potable water supply, and to provide for collection, treatment and disposal of sewage wastes generated by development, in a way that meets the environmental, health and operational expectations of the community.
4. To provide for safe, convenient and efficient movement of people.
5. To have a neutral impact upon the water quality in the Bongil Bongil National Park and to minimise impacts upon the flora and fauna habitat and natural setting of the area.
6. To enhance the local streetscape, provide for neighbourhood recreation requirements and to complement and enhance the adjoining Bongil Bongil National Park.

E8.1.2 Masterplan

- Provide for lot yield of approximately 225 lots with a potential for a minimum of 257 dwellings.
- Coordinate development of the area in accordance with the Masterplan (refer to Map 2).
- Require development to conform to the planning controls listed in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

E8.1.3 Housing Strategy

- Permit dwelling houses, dual occupancy and multi-unit housing where appropriate.
- Seek to maximise the dwelling yield in the study area.
- Allow for the provision of a "General Store" adjacent to the neighbourhood park.

E8.1.4 Servicing Strategy

- Ensure that water will be supplied to North Bonville by extending the existing water main. The area is to be serviced from the Toormina Reservoir.
- Require several smaller pump stations and gravity sewers (constructed at the developer's expense) to service the remainder of the study area.
- Ensure that stormwater/urban drainage systems are designed to reduce problems associated with urban runoff such as potential erosion and sedimentation.

E8.1.5 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Establish a road hierarchy that restricts direct access to approved intersections onto Lyons Road.
- Establish a bus route and provide bus shelters in designated locations.
- Provide pedestrian/cycle links for access to schools, shops, parks and community facilities located outside of North Bonville.

E8.1.6 Natural Environment Strategy

- Maintain vegetation of regional significance and minimise bushfire risks.
- Require on-site soil and water management practices to minimise soil erosion and minimise impacts on the Bongil Bongil National Park and Bonville Creek.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

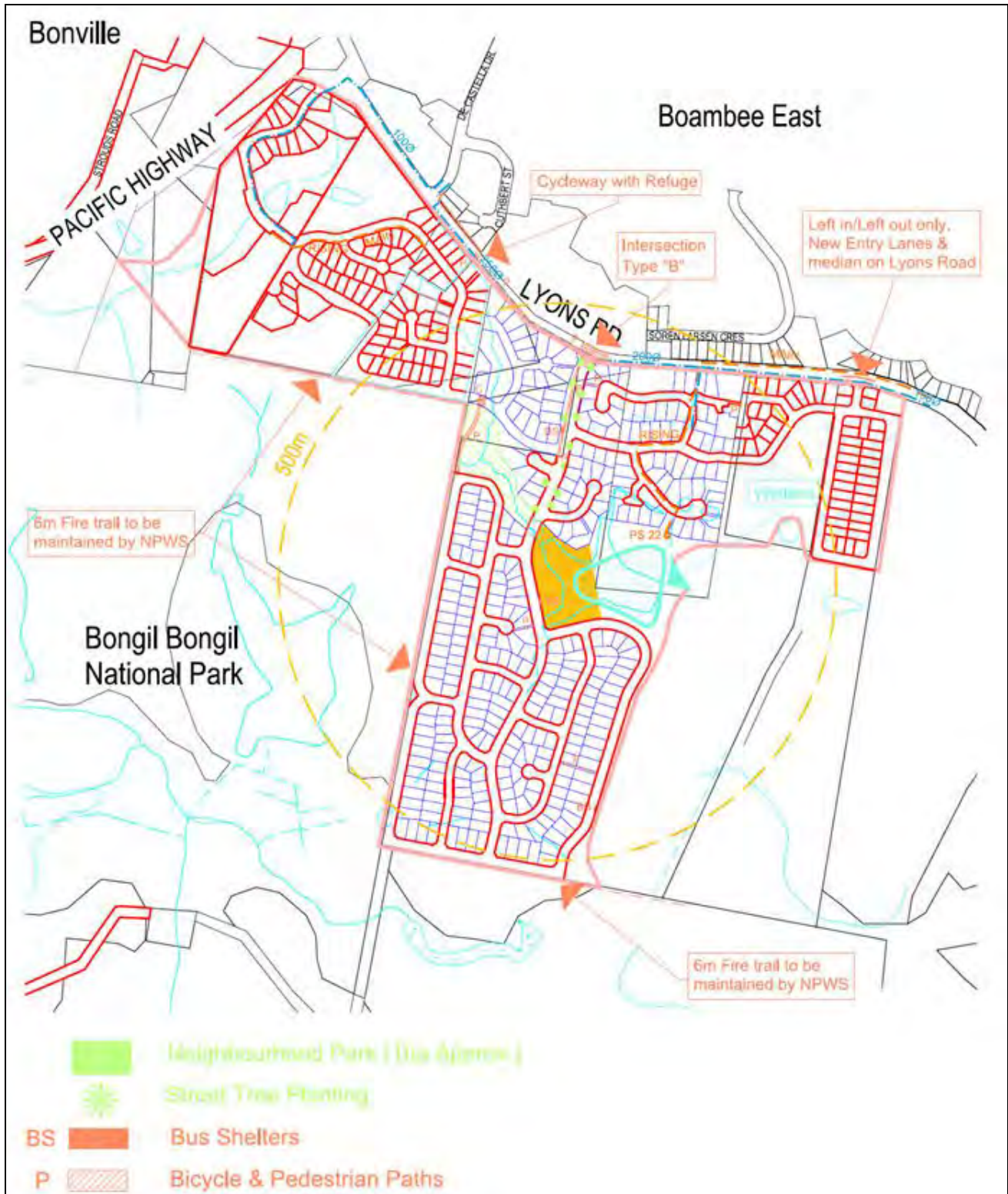
- Develop wildlife corridors by revegetating or planting vegetation species which will promote biodiversity.
- Devise a Management Plan in accordance with the Companion Animals Act to help control cats and dogs to protect the koala population in the study area.
- Incorporate filter strips and coarse sediment and gross pollutant traps into subdivisions.
- Require flora and fauna investigations in sensitive bushland areas.
- Require specialised fencing and sign posting as a condition of consent in properties adjoining areas of significant or substantial bushland and Bongil Bongil National Park.
- Develop an artificial wetland.

E8.1.7 Landscape, Open Space and Recreation Strategy

- a) Protect existing significant or native vegetation particularly where a neighbourhood park is proposed.
- b) Provide and control pedestrian and bicycle access to and through open space areas.
- c) Provide a neighbourhood park and children's playground.
- d) Observe any tree preservation order in force in the area.
- e) Investigate the addition of lands zoned E2 to the east of the study area, and other residual land (identified on Map 5) to Bongil Bongil National Park.



MAP 2 - MASTERPLAN



E8.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E8.2.1 Objectives

1. To ensure the release area is developed to its potential and within its environmental capacity.
2. To ensure development occurs in a timely manner when appropriate services are available.
3. To ensure water quality is maintained at acceptable levels to best practice policies.
4. To ensure adequate protection of all forms of cultural heritage in the release area.
5. To protect and enhance environmental protection areas from future development.
6. To ensure impacts of Pacific Highway noise are adequately addressed and appropriate ameliorative measures put in place.
7. To ensure a high level of road design and good access arrangements for the release area.
8. To ensure road design meets the needs of the community, and caters for bus access.
9. To provide for the active recreational needs of the community as development occurs.

E8.2.2 Controls

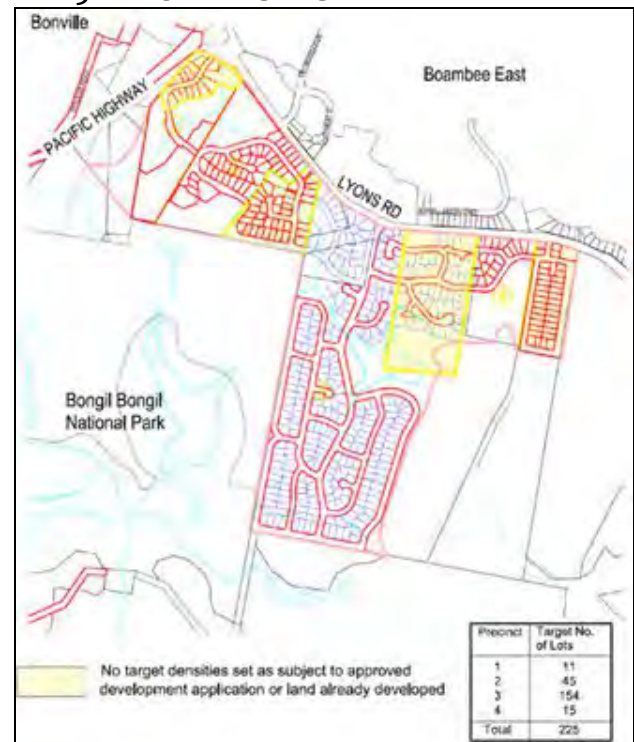
a) General

- i) Development is to comply with the planning strategies outlined above and the controls contained in this, and other relevant Components of this DCP.

b) Target Densities

- i) The density of development (number of potential dwellings) shall be in accordance with the targets shown in Map 3. These targets provide for a minimum density.
- ii) Applicants will be required to demonstrate the means to achieve at least the minimum target density shown.
- iii) The maximum dwelling yield shall not exceed the target density by more than 15%.

MAP 3 - TARGET DENSITIES



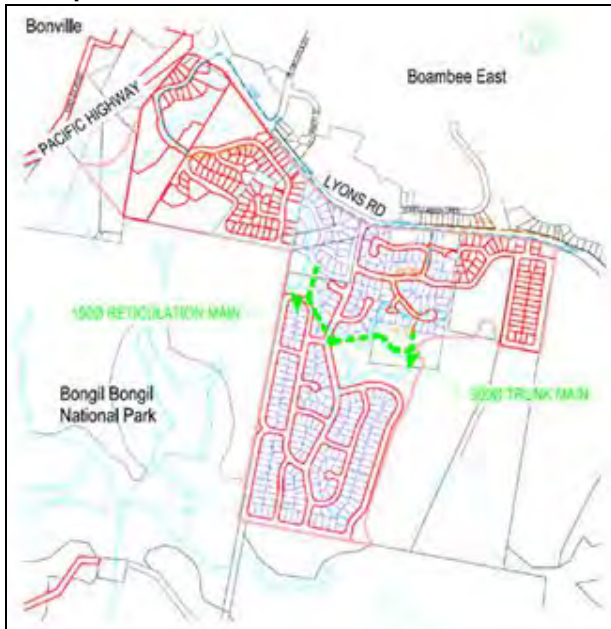
As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

c) Timing of Development

- i) No development is to occur until adequate road access and reticulated water and sewerage services are available.
- ii) Proponents of development will be required to extend water and sewer from the nearest point identified in Council’s [Water](#) and [Wastewater](#) Developer Servicing Plans (see Map 4).

MAP 4 - WATER SERVICES AND SEWER STRATEGY



d) Potential Land Contamination

- i) Sites with potential to contain contaminated soils shall be tested and remediated to reduce the potential for public health risks (refer Map 5).
- ii) Remediation works will need to be undertaken in accordance with legislative requirements.

MAP 5 - POTENTIAL LAND CONTAMINATION



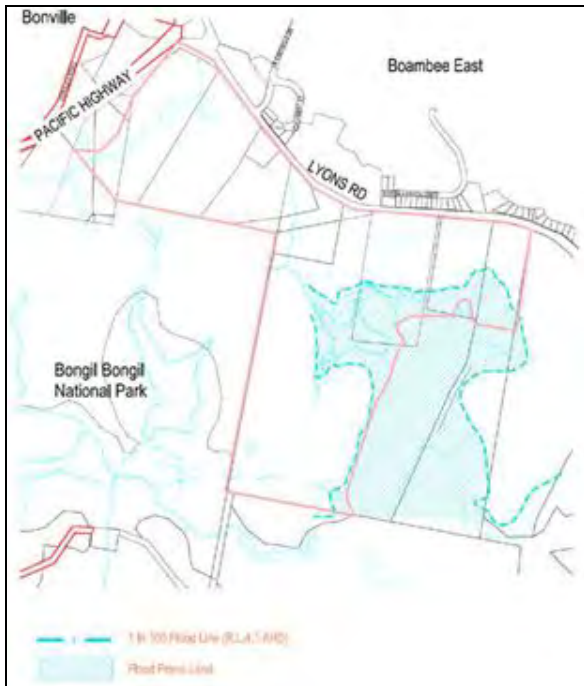
As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

e) Flood Prone Land

- i) Some properties within the study area are considered to be flood prone lands (see Map 6).
- ii) Development will be required to comply with Council’s [Flood Prone Land Policy](#).

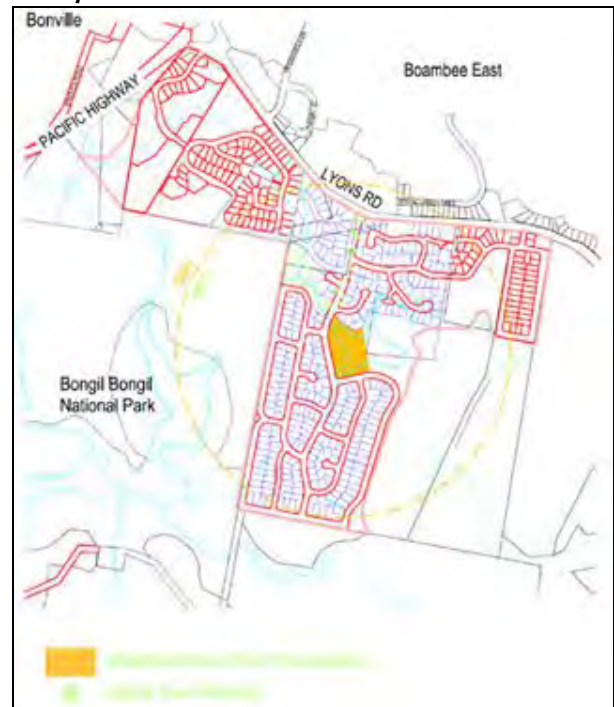
MAP 6 – FLOOD PRONE LAND



f) Landscape, Open Space and Recreation

- i) Existing significant or native vegetation shall be protected, particularly where a neighbourhood park is proposed.
- ii) Pedestrian and bicycle access shall be provided through open space areas.
- iii) A neighbourhood park and children’s playground within reasonable walking distance (i.e. 500 metres) of the community to be provided (refer Map 7).

MAP 7 - OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

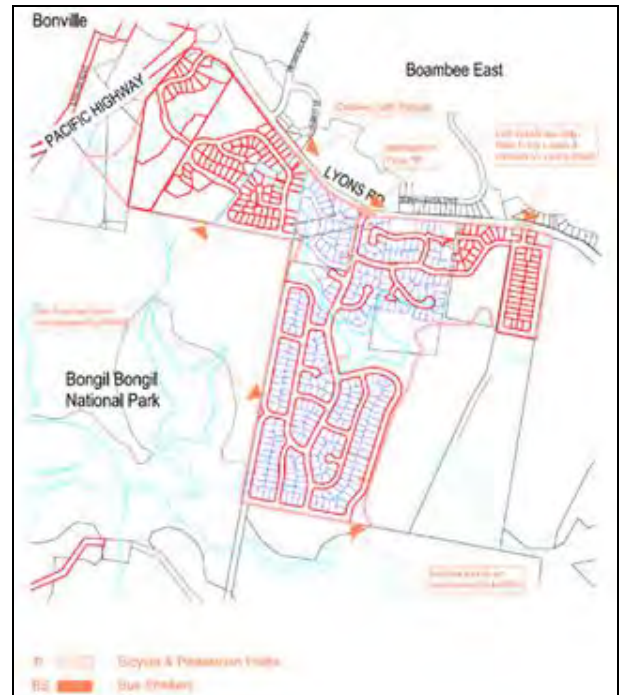
g) Natural and Habitat Areas

- i) Development shall minimise impacts on the Bongil Bongil National Park and Bonville Creek.
- ii) Wildlife corridors shall be enhanced by revegetating or planting those vegetation species which will promote biodiversity.
- iii) A management plan in accordance with the [Companion Animals Act 1998](#) shall be prepared to help control cats and dogs, in order to protect the koala population in the study area.
- iv) Specialised fencing and sign posting shall be required adjoining areas of significant or substantial bushland and Bongil Bongil National Park.
- v) The development of an artificial wetland is recommended.

h) Road Hierarchy and Access Control

- i) The road hierarchy shall restrict direct access to approved intersections only onto Lyons Road (see Map 8).
- ii) Pedestrian/cycle links for access to schools, shops, parks and community facilities outside of North Bonville shall be provided.

MAP 8 - TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT STRATEGY



i) Services

- i) Water, sewer, roads, drainage, footpaths, power and communication services to be provided to all lots by the developer. This includes any upsizing of any lead in or downstream mains unless agreed by Council. All works to be in accordance with Council's [Development Design and Construction Specification](#).
- ii) Water will be supplied to North Bonville by extending and constructing the existing water main. The area is to be serviced by the Toormina Reservoir.
- iii) Council has funded the main sewer pump station for this area. Any additional pump stations are to be fully funded by the developer.
- iv) Stormwater/urban drainage systems shall be designed so as to reduce problems associated with urban runoff such as potential erosion and sedimentation.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

j) Archaeology

- i) Applications for subdivisions involving ‘green field’ sites and/or earthworks shall be accompanied by an archaeological report prepared by an appropriately qualified person.
- ii) All consents involving earthworks shall be subject to Council’s standard condition, which specifies action to be taken if any artefacts are unearthed.
- iii) Additional information can be obtained from [Regulation of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage](#).

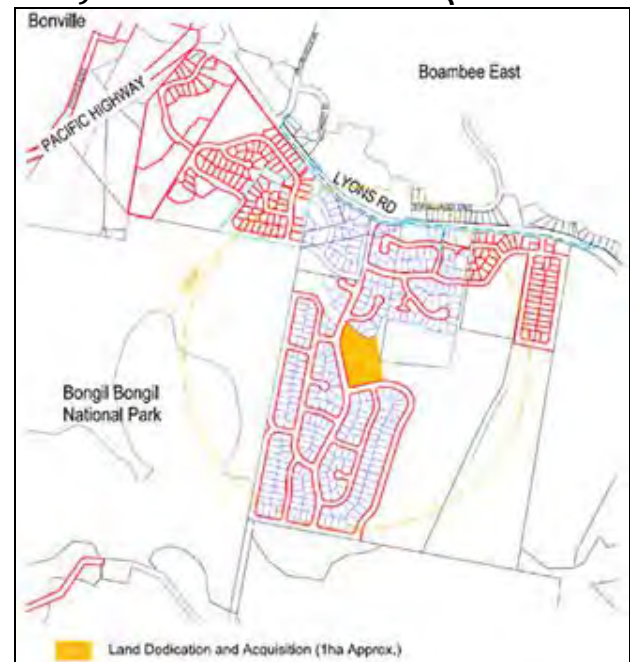
k) Water Quality

- i) Water quality in the release area is to be protected by three main measures:
 - filter strips;
 - coarse sediment and gross pollutant traps; and
 - a wetland.
- ii) The Contributions Plan provides for the provision of the coarse sediment and gross pollutant traps and wetland.

l) Land Dedication/Acquisition

- i) Lands to be purchased by Council are identified on the land acquisition map (refer to Map 9).
- ii) Lands that can not be developed due to bush fire buffers, creek buffers, development buffers, significant vegetation and other constraints shall be incorporated into environmental protection areas and dedicated to Council at no cost. The majority of these types of lands are identified in the land dedication map (refer to Map 9).

MAP 9 – LAND DEDICATION AND ACQUISITION



COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E9 SAWTELL VILLAGE PRECINCT

Applies to

Lands in the Sawtell Village Precinct under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

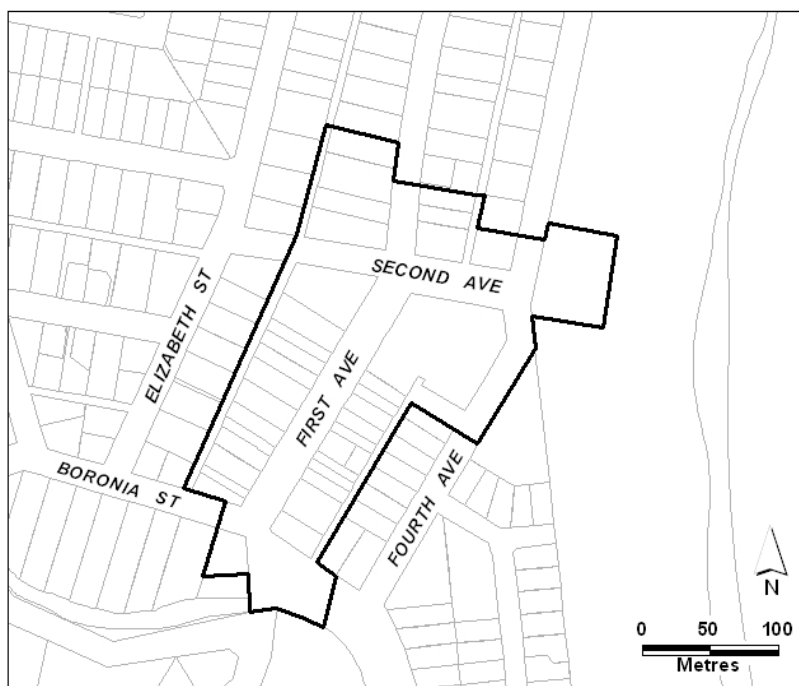
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Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides detailed controls that will maintain and enhance the character of the existing Sawtell Village Precinct.

MAP 1: LOCALITY



DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
- COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B3 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
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- COMPONENT B5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B6 POST EUROPEAN HERITAGE REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B7 BIODIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

PART C - ISSUE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT C1 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C2 ACCESS, PARKING AND SERVICING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C3 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C4 ADVERTISING SIGNS REQUIREMENTS
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- COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C8 INTEGRATED (NATURAL) WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART D - HAZARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- COMPONENT D1 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT E1 COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL AIRPORT
- COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK
- COMPONENT E3 COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE
- COMPONENT E4 HEARNES LAKE / SANDY BEACH
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- COMPONENT E12 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
- COMPONENT E13 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E14 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

- COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
- COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

Eg.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

Eg.1.1 Objective

1. To maintain and enhance the character of the existing Sawtell Village Precinct, while also creating an attractive and lively focus for the Sawtell area, reflecting its heritage significance.

Eg.1.2 Masterplan

- Provide for the needs of visitors, tourists and local residents.
- Provide an attractive, healthy and safe place for all people.
- Create employment opportunities for local residents.
- Ensure all development reflects the heritage appeal of the village.
- Require development to conform to the planning controls listed in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

Eg.1.3 Housing Strategy

- Allow for shop top housing where appropriate.

Eg.1.4 Urban Design Strategy

- Ensure that development strengthens local character and identity and promotes a sense of community through a range of design techniques that respect the heritage significance of the area.
- Ensure that development connects well to existing or proposed development on adjacent sites.
- Ensure that building siting and design enhances solar access.
- Ensure that building design incorporates climatic considerations.
- Retain and enhance the atmosphere and character of the area as a tourist heritage village.

Eg.1.5 Business Strategy

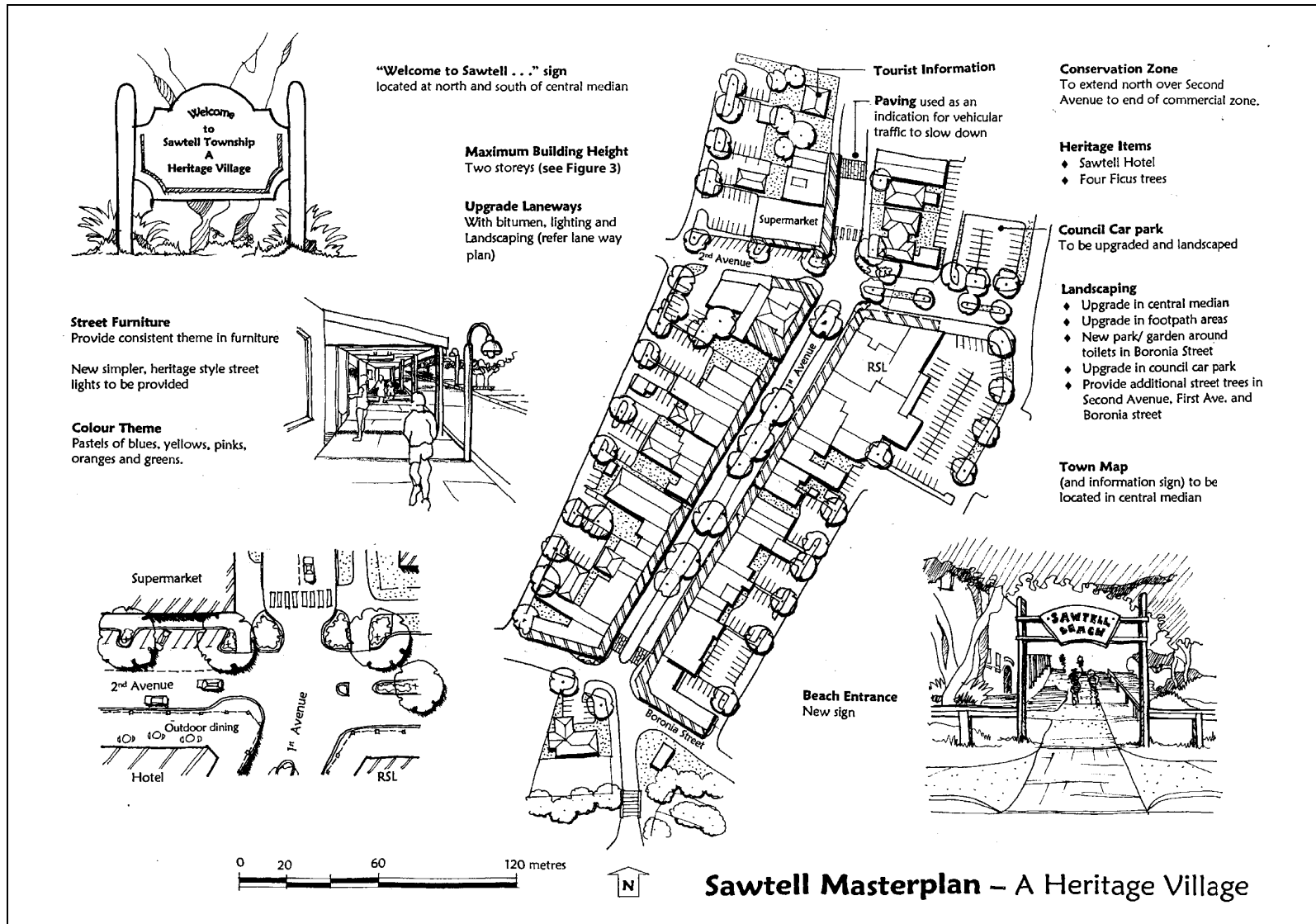
- Create opportunities to ensure the long term economic viability of the village.
- Provide planning controls to ensure appropriately scaled development of the village is recognised and continues.

Eg.1.6 Natural Environment Strategy

- Recognise the proximity of the village to the beach and creeks, and ensure that development uses do not impact on these attributes;
- Ensure new building work is energy efficient and does not compromise the energy efficiency of adjacent buildings; and
- Provide opportunities for the enhancement of the streetscape character by protecting, maintaining and improving the existing landscaping and signs within the village.

Eg.1.7 Character Statement

- Sawtell Village is unique, with a heritage seaside village atmosphere created by the significant ficus trees, attractive landscaped median strip and older style shops of the small-scale town centre.
- The relaxed holiday feel of the village is complemented by a mix of local restaurants and entertainment facilities.
- Sawtell's heritage ambience has been acknowledged, embraced and built on by all who own and use the village.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

E9.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E9.2.1 Objectives

1. To enhance the character of village areas.
2. To provide design criteria that encourages good urban design practice.
3. To preserve the heritage significance of heritage items and the heritage conservation area.

E9.2.2 Controls

a) Site Analysis

- i) A site analysis is required to identify opportunities and constraints for building design. The complete requirements for an adequate site analysis are outlined in the Context and Site Analysis Information Sheet relating to the preparation and lodgement of a development application (DA).

Note: Applicants should engage the services of a qualified Building Design Professional to design new buildings and extensions to existing buildings that will be in the public view.

b) Design Principles

- i) For developments of a height greater than one storey, building design is to provide for a distinguishable top, middle, base and entry.
- ii) The design of buildings on corner sites will include features acknowledging the corner (see Figures 1 and 2).
- iii) All buildings shall include awnings for shelter from rain and the sun; these must align with adjoining buildings where possible to form a continuous link of protection from the elements, and will include a variety of materials.

- iv) Colours, textures and materials of buildings and landscape elements shall reflect the character of the seaside holiday theme of the 1930s to the 1960s eras. Suggested colours are pastels of blue, green, yellow, red and orange.

FIGURE 1 – SCHEMATIC SUGGESTIONS FOR NORTH WEST CORNER OF FIRST AVENUE AND BORONIA STREET



FIGURE 2 – SCHEMATIC SUGGESTIONS FOR NORTH-WEST CORNER OF FIRST AVENUE AND SECOND AVENUE



- v) Building design shall be of a scale which is compatible with the streetscape and character of surrounding development.
- vi) A maximum height of two stories is permitted, in accordance with Figure 3 below.

FIGURE 3 – BUILDING ENVELOPES FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE SAWTELL CONSERVATION AREA (VIEWED WEST-EAST)

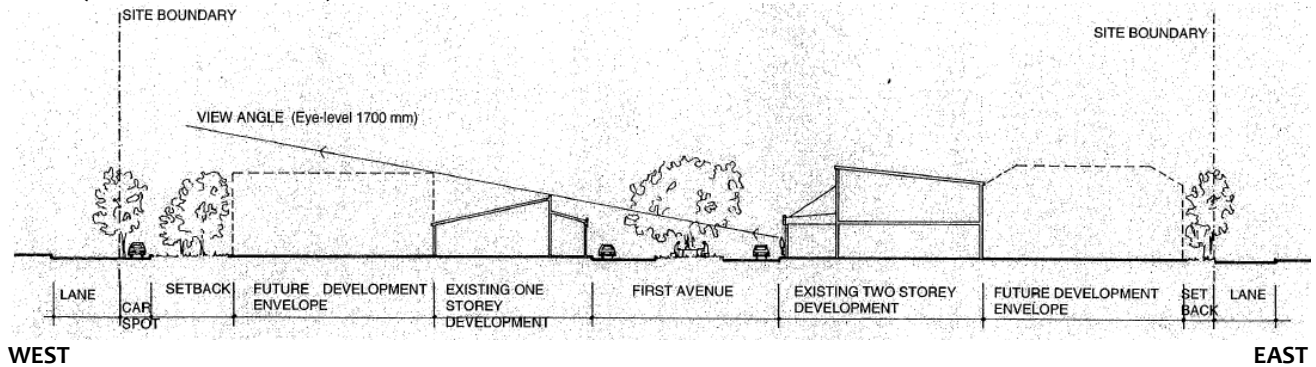


FIGURE 4 - EXAMPLE OF A NEW BUILDING WITH GOOD PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND APPEALING ENTRANCE



vii) Building entryways are to be provided at the same level as the footpath and shall not be obstructed by low walls, steps or the like.

viii) The design of first floor residential or office buildings shall be diverse and livable by incorporating some or all of these elements:

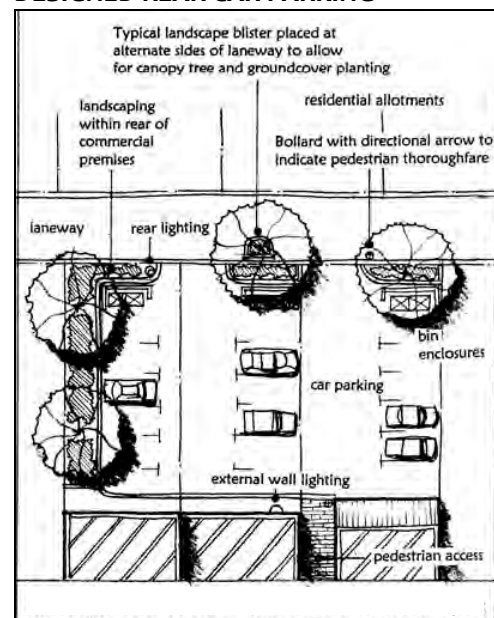
- decks;
- verandahs/awnings;
- window hoods;
- wide eaves;
- lattice; and
- climate control windows (i.e. louvres or small windows).

ix) The design of development within the Sawtell Conservation Area is to be undertaken in accordance with the recommendations of the [Sawtell Heritage and Building Design Guidelines](#).

c) Car Parking

- i) Where rear lane access is available this shall be used for direct vehicular access and service instead of First Avenue.
- ii) Opportunities for on-site car parking at the rear of commercial premises are to be maximised, while also giving priority to landscaping in the car parking areas.

FIGURE 5 - EXAMPLE OF WELL LANDSCAPED AND DESIGNED REAR CAR PARKING



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

d) Pedestrian Links

- i) Pedestrian links from First Avenue to rear car parking areas are to be provided in development sites to encourage and facilitate the use of rear on-site parking.
- ii) Pedestrian links are to be attractive and well-lit.

e) Landscaping

- i) A landscape plan prepared by a qualified landscape architect or designer is to be submitted showing existing trees and proposed landscaping at the rear of the premises where relevant.
- ii) Landscaping is to be provided in the parking areas and in rear setbacks visible from streets, service roads or residential development.
- iii) Incorporate signs into landscaping, where appropriate (e.g. "Customer Parking").

f) Loading/Unloading Bays

- i) Bays shall be located so that vehicles do not utilise any public road, footway, laneway, or service road when loading/unloading.
- ii) Bays and turning areas shall have dimensions designed in accordance with the size of vehicles that will service the site.

g) Infrastructure Requirements

- i) Development is to provide the following minimum standards where relevant:
 - sealed road pavement;
 - concrete kerb and gutter;
 - concrete footpath to the nearest cross street;
 - piped stormwater drainage; and
 - if access is to be via a lane, the lane is to be constructed full width from at least one street.

**FIGURE 5 - SAWTELL HOTEL - C 1932
ONE OF SAWTELL'S MOST SIGNIFICANT HERITAGE BUILDINGS**



FIGURE 6 - REAR LANEWAY TO BE UPGRADED



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

h) Services

i) Waste

- Trade waste facilities are to be designed to comply with Council's Trade Waste Policy, with suitable access for service vehicles.
- Waste and recyclable storage areas are to be screened from public areas and public view.

ii) Stormwater

- All stormwater is to be directed to the street drainage system or inter-allotment drainage easement where available.
- Surface water is not to be directed to neighbouring properties. Stormwater to kerb connections is to be via kerb adaptor units and is to incorporate Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) in accordance with Council's [WSUD](#).

iii) Water and Sewerage Services

- Water and sewer connections, where not available to the lot, will require the extension of Council's mains to service that lot.
- Plans for water and sewer main extensions are to be prepared by professional consultants in accordance with Council's Technical Guidelines.
- The service must be installed as per the Technical Guidelines and be inspected by Council during installation.

iv) Erosion and Sediment Control

Development proposals are to be accompanied by an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for approval by Council prior to the release of a construction certificate (refer to Erosion and Sediment Control requirements in Component D1 of this Development Control Plan (DCP)).

FIGURE 7 - THE CENTRAL MEDIAN WITH ITS FOUR HERITAGE LISTED FICUS TREES, ENHANCES SAWTELL'S VILLAGE ATMOSPHERE



COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E10 SOUTH COFFS

Applies to

Lands in the South Coffs Release Area under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as shown on Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

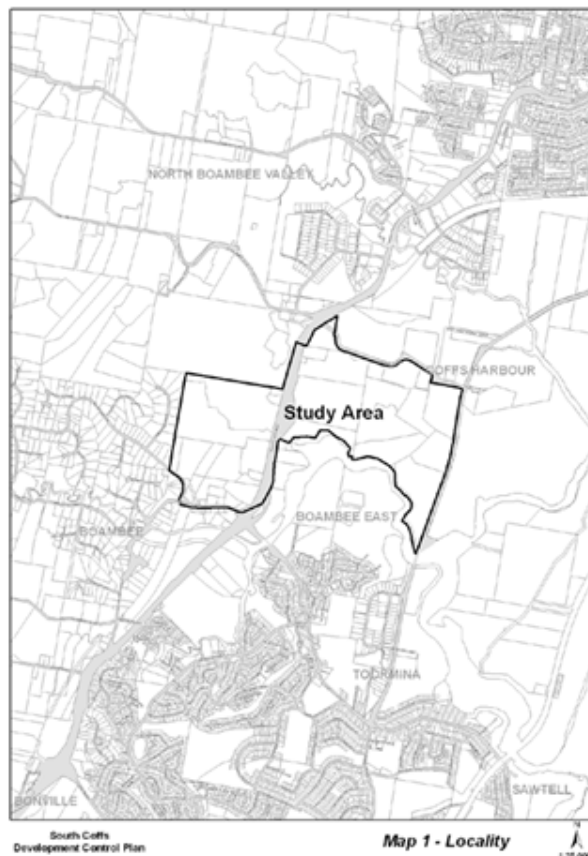
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This Component provides detailed controls for development for any permissible use within the zones applying to land in the South Coffs Harbour Release Area.

MAP 1 – LOCALITY



DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
- COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
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PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

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- COMPONENT E14 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F – GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

- COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
- COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

E10.1 MASTERPLAN

E10.1.1 Objectives

1. To provide the basis for achieving the environmental, social, cultural and economic objectives listed in E10.2 below.
2. To provide an overall plan to enable the coordination of public and private development.

E10.1.2 Masterplan

- Provide for an additional population of approximately 796 people in accordance with the masterplan (refer to Map 2 Masterplan).
- Require development to conform to the planning controls listed in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

E10.1.3 Urban Design Strategy

- Ensure that neighbourhoods are pedestrian focussed with an emphasis on social opportunities and public open space areas.
- Provide a variety of lot sizes to facilitate housing diversity and to meet the people’s choice/housing needs.
- Ensure that urban form is site-responsive, particularly to the topography and environmental constraints of the land.
- Strengthen local character and identity and promote a sense of community through a range of design techniques.
- Ensure that development connects to existing and/or proposed development on adjacent sites.
- Ensure that development provides open space linkages to adjacent environmental protection and/or open space areas.
- Enhance solar access through appropriate building siting and design.
- Incorporate climatic considerations in appropriate building design.

10.1.4 Servicing Strategy

- Ensure that servicing will meet the needs of the present and future community whilst ensuring a healthy and sustainable built and natural environment.
- Ensure that the provision and management of servicing is in accordance with “best practice” standards.
- Ensure that developers are required to extend water and sewer as identified in Council’s Water and Wastewater Developer Servicing Plans.
- Ensure that development enables efficient provision of utility services to new localities.
- Ensure that development incorporates Water Sensitive Urban Design.

Note: No water reticulation shall be provided to the rural residential area west of the Pacific Highway.

10.1.5 Business Strategy

- Encourage appropriate retail and commercial development on business zoned lands to provide for the daily needs of the South Coffs neighbourhood.
- Limit office development to small scale establishments (no greater than 150m² per allotment) to ensure that the CBD maintains its regional status.
- Ensure that development on B6 zoned lands supports and does not detract from the vitality of other commercial centres.

10.1.6 Community Service Strategy

- Encourage community service development to support the role of the central business district.
- Ensure that links between proposed neighbourhoods and surrounding town centres such as Coffs Harbour, Toormina and Sawtell are established.
- Ensure that urban form provides good accessibility through street layouts and promotes walking and cycling.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

- Ensure that adequate transport and pedestrian linkages to community facilities and open space areas are provided.
- Encourage community service provision to evaluate the needs of the community and respond to demand.

10.1.7 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Ensure that urban form integrates and consolidates surrounding commercial and community services via existing road networks.
- Ensure that traffic management infrastructure results in the efficient and safe movement of people.

Note: Preferred road and intersection locations are shown in Map 7.

- Ensure that bus shelters are provided to service the area, as identified in the Masterplan.

10.1.8 Natural Environment Strategy

- Protect and enhance environmental protection areas as identified on the Masterplan (including bushfire buffers, creek buffers, development buffers, significant vegetation and other constrained land).
- Exclude urban development from sensitive areas to protect riparian vegetation, maintain water quality and provide habitat linkages.
- Protect and enhance high value vegetation.
- Exclude urban development from known habitat for endangered fauna species.
- Provide sufficient bushfire buffers between environmental protection areas and future development without the removal of high value vegetation.
- Seek the dedication of land that cannot be developed due to the bushfire buffer requirements and incorporate into environmental protection areas at no cost to Council.

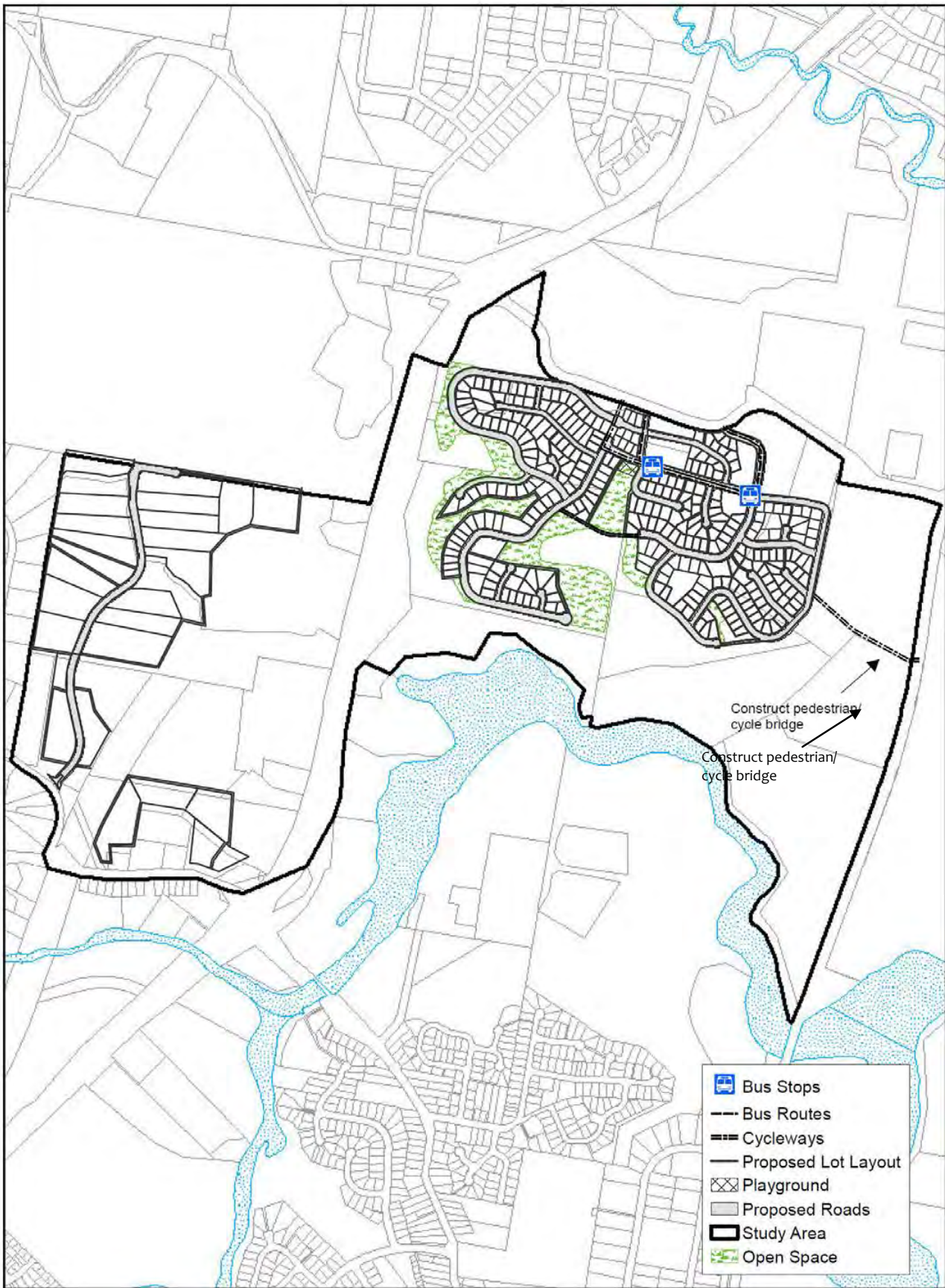
10.1.9 Open Space and Recreation Strategy

- Ensure that neighbourhood open space areas are located within 500 metres of all residences.
- Incorporate environmental protection areas into a network of public open space.
- Manage open space areas and community land in accordance with the relevant Plan of Management.
- Encourage passive recreation within open space areas (including bushfire buffers) where it does not involve the removal of native vegetation and/or damage the environmental values of the area.

Note: Map 6 outlines the proposed Open Space Network for the South Coffs Harbour Release Area.



MAP 2 - MASTERPLAN



E10.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E10.2.1 Objectives

1. To ensure that the provision of public utilities and facilities are developed as a result of future development.
2. To ensure that development contributes to the economic growth of the City and provide links to local employment opportunities.
3. To ensure that commercial development in the South Coffs release area supports the Coffs Harbour City Centre does not negatively affect its functioning.
4. To provide safe and attractive neighbourhoods that provide for the diverse needs of the community while offering a wide choice of housing and leisure opportunities, as well as associated community facilities.
5. To lessen the dependence on cars while improving the accessibility of public transport services and infrastructure while encouraging walking and cycling.
6. To ensure development protects areas of high conservation value.
7. To ensure that development takes into account environmental constraints, including soil erosion, flooding and bushfire risk, and protects areas of natural and cultural significance.
8. To incorporate best practice urban water management techniques relating to stormwater quality and quantity, water conservation and re-use and ecosystem health.
9. To ensure development protects enhances and maintains natural bushland, native habitats and koala populations, including the revegetation of linkages between habitats to the north and south.

10. To maintain or improve in water quality to ensure healthy estuaries, for natural systems, residents and tourists.

E10.2.2 Controls

a) General

Development is to comply with the planning strategies outlined in E10.1 above, and other relevant components of this DCP.

b) Target Densities

- i) The density of development is to be in accordance with the minimum target densities specified on Map 3.
- ii) The maximum dwelling yield shall not exceed the target density by more than 15%.

MAP 3 – MINIMUM TARGET DENSITIES



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

c) Lot Layout

- i) Development is to integrate with existing or proposed development on adjacent sites.
- ii) Subdivision layouts are to establish legible street and open space networks and provide for buildings fronting streets to ensure safe, attractive and efficient circulation of pedestrians, cyclists and drivers.

d) Urban Capability, Soil Erosion and Landslip

- i) All development applications (DA) on land with more than 25% slope shall be accompanied by detailed geotechnical information assessing land slip risks, construction considerations and soil and erosion considerations.
- ii) Land slope categories are shown on Maps 4A and 4B.

MAP 4A - STEEP LAND (EASTERN SIDE OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY)



MAP 4B - STEEP LAND (WESTERN SIDE OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY)



e) Water Quality

- i) To ensure the protection of water quality, the following buffers are to be provided to creeks, measured from mean high water mark (as determined by Council):
 - Boambee Creek 50 metres; and
 - all other creeks 20 metres.

Note: Mean High Water Mark is defined in LEP 2013.
- ii) These buffer areas are to be rehabilitated and revegetated using endemic species, in accordance with a detailed plan approved by Council (see Component B7 Biodiversity Requirements), and dedicated at no cost to Council.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

- iii) DAs for subdivision are to be accompanied by water quality modelling to assess the impact of development on water quality compared to the water quality targets identified in Council's [Water Sensitive Urban Design Policy](#).
- iv) DAs involving low lying areas are to identify impacts of development, and recommend ameliorative measures. Particular attention is to be given to the placement of fill, drainage and stormwater facilities that have regard to groundwater quality and existing conditions.

f) On-Site Effluent Disposal (for the area zoned Rural R5)

- i) On-site effluent disposal is to meet the objectives and criterion of Council's On-Site Sewage Management Strategy.

g) Banana Lands Buffer

- i) The Rural Land Use Conflict Information Sheet shall be considered and referenced when preparing applications for subdivisions and dwellings.

h) Cultural Heritage

- i) Any future development has the potential to unearth artefacts. It will be the responsibility of the developer to undertake appropriate Archaeological Assessment.
- ii) An Archaeological Assessment must:
 - be undertaken by person(s) deemed to be suitably qualified by Council and the Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC);

- comply with the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974](#) and the [Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979](#); and
- consider specific 'links', which are important to the Gumbaingirr Aboriginal community.

- iii) The developer must consult with the LALC to determine if there is an appropriate Aboriginal place name. This place name is to be used if known.
- iv) The requirements of the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974](#) must be followed if cultural sites or places are identified on the site. This may necessitate the need for a Section 90 Heritage Impact Permit obtained from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage ahead of any site disturbance or destruction.

Note: Additional information on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage requirements can be obtained from <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licences/achregulation.htm>.

i) Natural and Habitat Areas

- i) Environmental protection areas as identified on the Masterplan (including bush fire buffers, creek buffers, development buffers, significant vegetation and other constrained land) are to be protected and enhanced.
- ii) Exclude urban development from known habitat for endangered fauna species, and provide sufficient buffers to development.
- iii) Bush fire buffers shall be provided between environmental protection areas and future development without the removal of high value vegetation.
- iv) Land shall be dedicated, free of cost, that cannot be developed due to the bush fire buffer requirements and incorporated into environmental protection areas at no further cost to Council.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

- v) Where practical, perimeter roads shall be provided adjacent to all environmental protection areas to provide a separation distance between residential development and natural areas. Perimeter roads may be incorporated into bush fire trails.
- vi) Design of roads that cross key linkages shall incorporate lighting, signage and road narrowing/traffic calming to facilitate safe crossings for koalas.
- vii) Species diversity will be protected where environmental protection zones are implemented and managed to protect primary koala habitat (refer to Maps 5A and 5B).
- viii) Indigenous species should be used in street planting and landscaping.

j) Large Lot Residential

- i) The following provisions concern land zoned for large lot residential purposes:
 - no removal of koala habitat trees for roads within a Environmental Protection (E2) zone, unless there are no feasible alternatives, and compensatory planting provided in accordance with the Biodiversity Component (B7) of this DCP; and
 - all lots created by a large lot residential subdivision shall include a development envelope, which contains an area of 1,500m² outside of any Environmental Protection (E2) zone.

MAP 5A - KOALA HABITAT (EASTERN SIDE OF HIGHWAY)



MAP 5B - KOALA HABITAT (WESTERN SIDE OF HIGHWAY)



k) Open Space and Recreation

- i) Development proposals are to incorporate environmental protection areas into a network of public open space.
- ii) Management of open space areas and community land is to be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Plan of Management.
- iii) Encourage passive recreation within open space areas (including bush fire buffers) where it does not involve the removal of native vegetation and/or damage to the environmental values of the area (see Map 6).

MAP 6 – OPEN SPACE NETWORK



l) Noise and Air Quality

- i) Applications for subdivision within 300 metres of the Pacific Highway and/or land adjoining industrial areas will be required to be accompanied by an acoustic report, identifying measures (mounding, acoustic barriers, building design, building materials, etc) to ensure future residents are not subject to unacceptable noise levels.
- ii) Assessment is to be undertaken by an appropriately qualified person, having regard to the following guidelines: [NSW Industrial Noise Policy](#) and the [NSW Road Noise Policy](#).

Note: Noise reduction may require judicious design in terms of location factors, internal layouts, building materials and construction.

- iii) Residential development of land within 200 metres of the crematorium emission stacks shall be designed to comply with prevailing Health Department requirements. Ancillary development including parking, access and private open space may be provided within the two hundred-metre buffer.
- iv) Development within 200 metres of the major sporting facilities shall be designed and constructed to reduce likely internal noise levels experienced as a result of the use of the sporting fields.

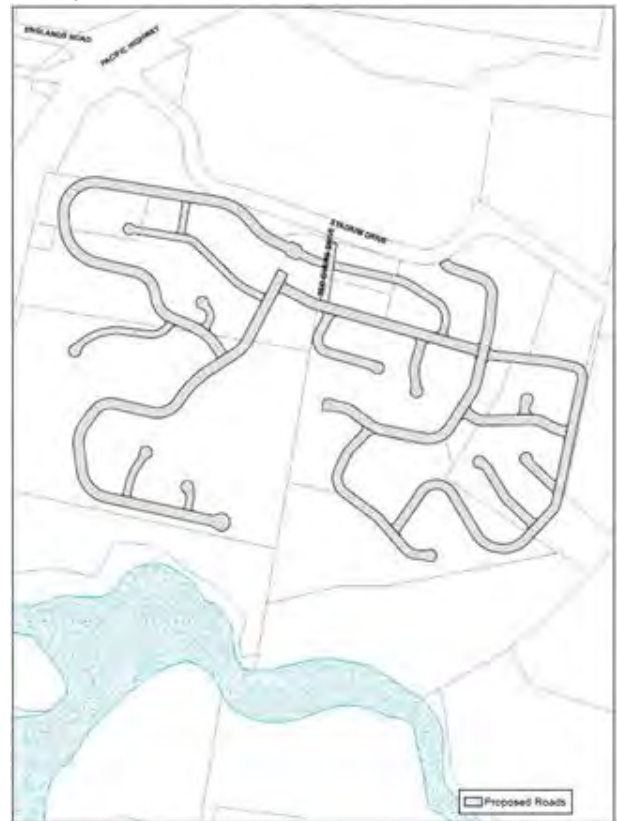
As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

m) Road Design and Access Control

- i) Urban form shall integrate and consolidate surrounding commercial and community services via existing road networks.
- ii) Preferred road and intersection locations are show in Map 7.
- iii) Bus shelters to service the area, as identified in the Masterplan must be provided by the developer at no cost to Council.
- iv) It will be the responsibility of the developer to:
 - extend local road access to the masterplan identified road system;
 - ensure pedestrian and cycleway linkage are provided to local schools, shops, playing fields and parks;
 - implement traffic calming devices at cycleway crossover points on the collector road systems; and
 - utilise minimum road and verge width to prevent impacts on roadside ecology.

MAP 7 - PROPOSED ROAD NETWORK



- v) Road design and construction works are to conform to Council's [Development Design and Construction Specification](#).
- vi) Access for residents is to be provided by means of two intersections located along Stadium Drive. No direct access to Stadium Drive is permitted from any created lot.
- vii) Intersection locations on Stadium Drive are to be limited to those shown in Map 7.
- viii) Threshold and pavement treatments provided throughout the subdivision are to be designed to create an attractive streetscape.
- ix) Bus routes and bus stops are shown in Map 8 and are to be placed within 400 metres of any likely future dwelling.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

MAP 8 - BUS ROUTES AND BUS STOPS



o) Services

- i) Developers will be required to extend water and sewer infrastructure as identified in Council’s Water and Wastewater [Developer Servicing Plans](#) (refer Maps 9A and 9B).
- ii) Where services identified in Council’s Water and Wastewater [Developer Servicing Plans](#) are not in place, it will be the developer’s responsibility to forward fund these services.
- iii) No water or sewer reticulation shall be provided to the rural residential area west of the Pacific Highway.

n) Pedestrian and Cycleway Paths

- i) Pedestrian paths and cycleways are to be constructed by the developer undertaken the subdivision (except where the paths/cycleways are within identified future open space areas, and construction will be carried out as part of the developer contribution plan).
- ii) Playground equipment, pedestrian paths and cycleways are to be provided as shown in Map 2.
- iii) The developer is to provide footpaths in accordance with Council’s requirements.
- iv) Playground equipment is to be provided by developer contributions.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

**MAP 9A - SERVICING STRATEGY
(Water)**



**MAP 9B - SERVICING STRATEGY
(Sewer)**



COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E11 WEST COFFS

Applies to

Lands in the West Coffs Release Area under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as show in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

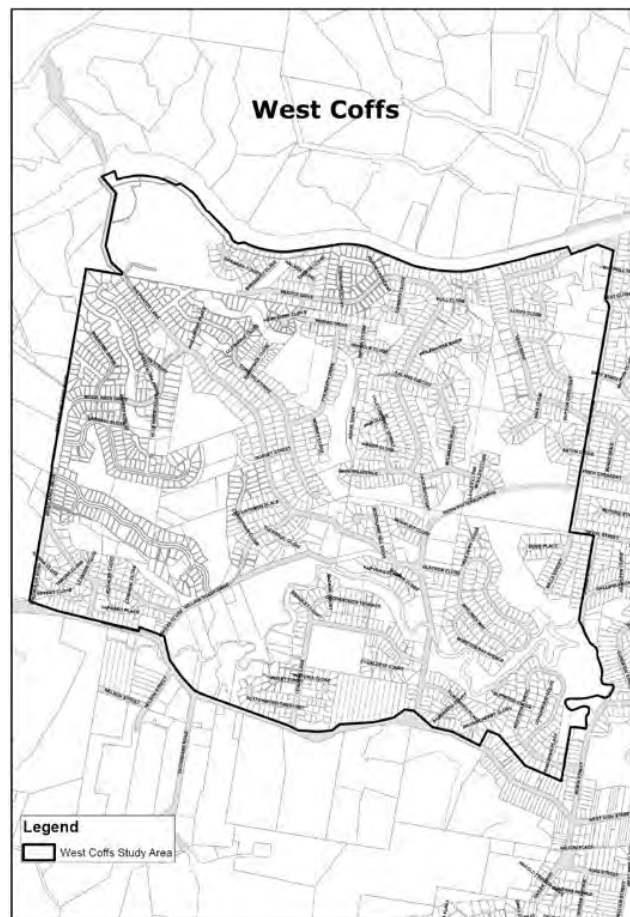
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This Component provides detailed planning controls for existing and proposed development in the West Coffs Urban Release Area.

MAP 1 - LOCALITY



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E11.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E11.1.1 Objective

1. To provide an overall plan that enables the integration of existing and proposed development, and which coordinates public and private development.

E11.1.2 Masterplan

- Achieve a minimum **dwelling yield** of 510; an additional 1,305 people.
- Require development to conform to the planning controls listed in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

E11.1.3 Servicing Strategy

- Extend water and sewer from the nearest point identified in Council's Water and Wastewater Developer Servicing Plan for West Coffs.
- Ensure that development does not proceed where services are not in place, unless the developer forward funds the services.

E11.1.4 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Provide for the safe, convenient and efficient movement of people.
- Ensure a road network that minimises excavation and filling.
- Establish a road hierarchy with collector roads circulating the area to service local roads.
- Establish bus routes and pedestrian/cycle links.
- Implement the construction of culverts across the Pearce Drive continuation and creek realignment.

E11.1.5 Natural Environment Strategy

- Establish and enhance 20 metre wide habitat linkages within the E2 Environmental Conservation Zone.
- Protect threatened species and priority fauna that occur within the West Coffs area.
- Restore fragmented riparian vegetation along Coffs Creek and enhance the diversity of native species in the West Coffs area.
- Prevent the decline of significant species, within the habitat linkages of West Coffs, such as the Tusked Frog and Pacific Baza.
- Strengthen Koala Corridors by protecting Very High Value and High Value Vegetation identified on Map 4.
- Purchase protected areas for public ownership through developer contributions.
- Ensure that noxious and exotic vegetation is removed from protected areas before they are acquired.
- Ensure that Water Sensitive Urban Design principles are incorporated into building and construction techniques.
- Improve the water quality of Coffs Creek by regenerating / revegetating degraded and fragmented riparian areas.

E11.1.6 Open Space and Recreation Strategy

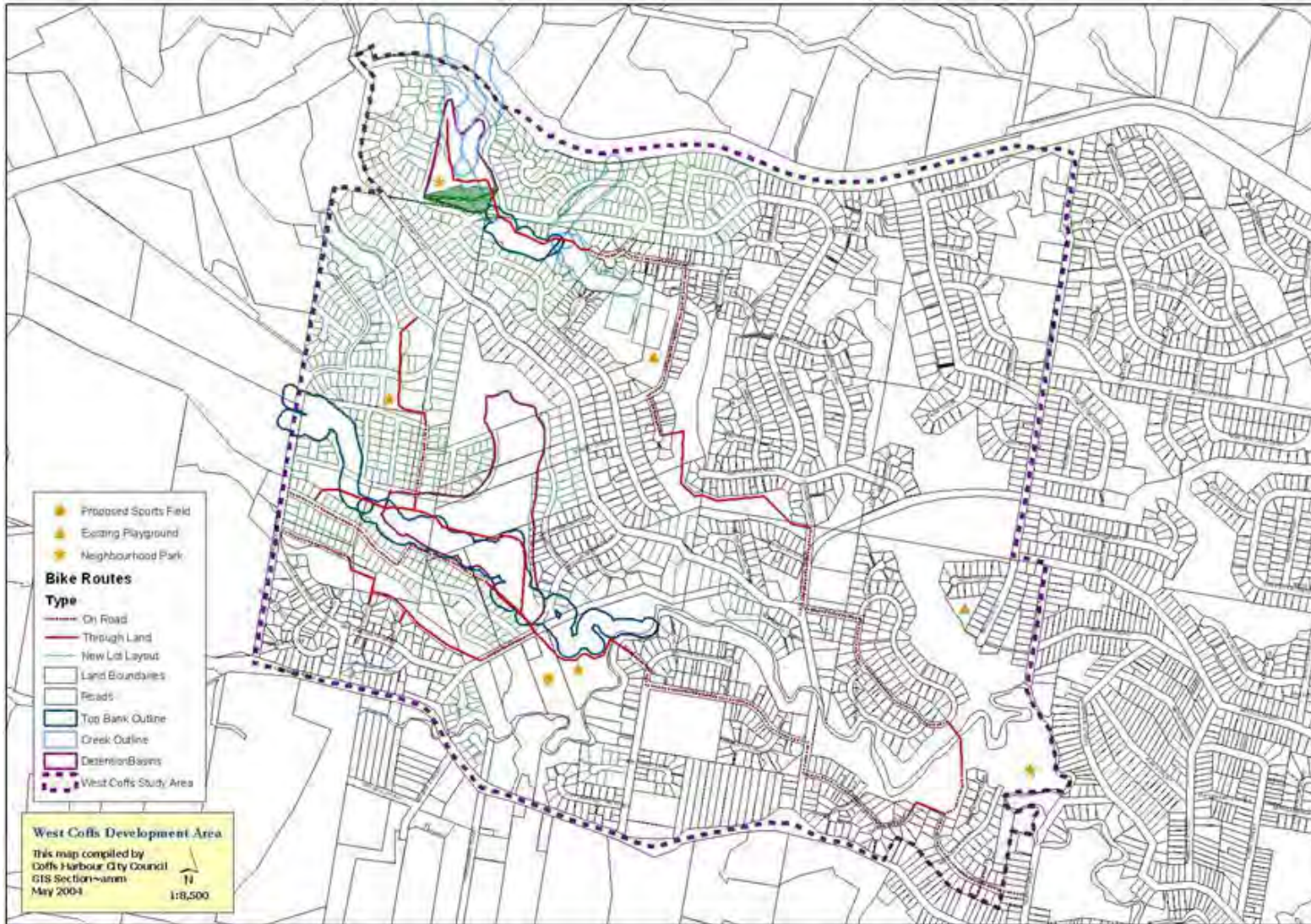
- Provide local level open space recreation facilities on land zoned RE1 Public Recreation adjacent to William Sharpe Drive which comprises:
 - playing fields
 - children's playgrounds
 - tennis courts
 - associated amenities
 - car parking
 - shelter sheds.
- Incorporate protected areas into a network of Public open Space.
- Provide passive recreation opportunities throughout the Open Space Network.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

- Provide neighbourhood parks comprising a mix of junior and senior children's play equipment, which are generally located within 500 metres walking distance from future housing.
- Provide shared pedestrian and cycle pathways linking residential areas to key community and recreation sites as well as providing opportunities for non-motorised commuting.
- Ensure that perimeter roads are provided adjacent to areas of open space to facilitate public access and maintenance, and to reduce the potential for private encroachments.
- Provide a companion animal 'off-leash' area within the William Sharpe Drive detention basin area.

MAP 2 - MASTERPLAN



E11.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E11.2.1 Objectives

1. To provide timely water and sewer facilities within the adopted servicing strategies for Coffs Harbour.
2. To enable development to proceed at a reasonable cost to developers and the community.
3. To ensure development contributes to the economic growth of Coffs Harbour.
4. To ensure that community, educational, leisure and recreational facilities are adequate to serve the future residents of the area.
5. To ensure that development provides adequate footpaths, cycleways, public transport and road links to adjoining neighbourhoods and natural areas and assists in reducing reliance on cars.
6. To provide adequate measures in the built environment to ensure public safety.
7. To protect and maintain natural bushland, native habitats, water quality, scenic amenity and recreational potential of the natural environment.
8. To ensure that development adequately addresses any environmental risk hazards.
9. To provide residential development that is sympathetic to the natural features of the area.

E11.2 Controls

a) General

Development is to comply with the Planning Strategies outlined in E11.1 above, and the controls contained in this and other relevant Components of this DCP.

b) Slope

- i) Land that has been identified on Map 3 as having a slope $\geq 20\%$ shall be developed in accordance with the following requirements:
 - a concept plan is to be submitted to Council, which provides details of any earthworks, finished ground levels on all lots, and final land slope for each lot; and
 - perimeter roads are to be provided to protect riparian areas and along both sides of detention basins.

Note: Perimeter roads may be marginally below the 1% flood level (i.e. within the inundation area).

- ii) Lots with a final slope $\geq 20\%$ shall be developed in accordance with the following requirements:
 - the developer shall provide a building envelope with an area of no less than 250m^2 of functional proportions;
 - building envelopes are not to exceed a maximum grade of 20% ; and
 - a concrete access driveway to each lot is to be provided, by the developer, at no more than 20% grade.

c) Water Quality

- i) Development involving earthworks or vegetation removal shall be accompanied by an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan in accordance with Component D1 of this Development Control Plan (DCP).
- ii) Development is to incorporate perimeter roads separating riparian buffer areas from residential lots.
- iii) Development is to improve the water quality of Coffs Creek by regenerating/ revegetating degraded and fragmented riparian areas.



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

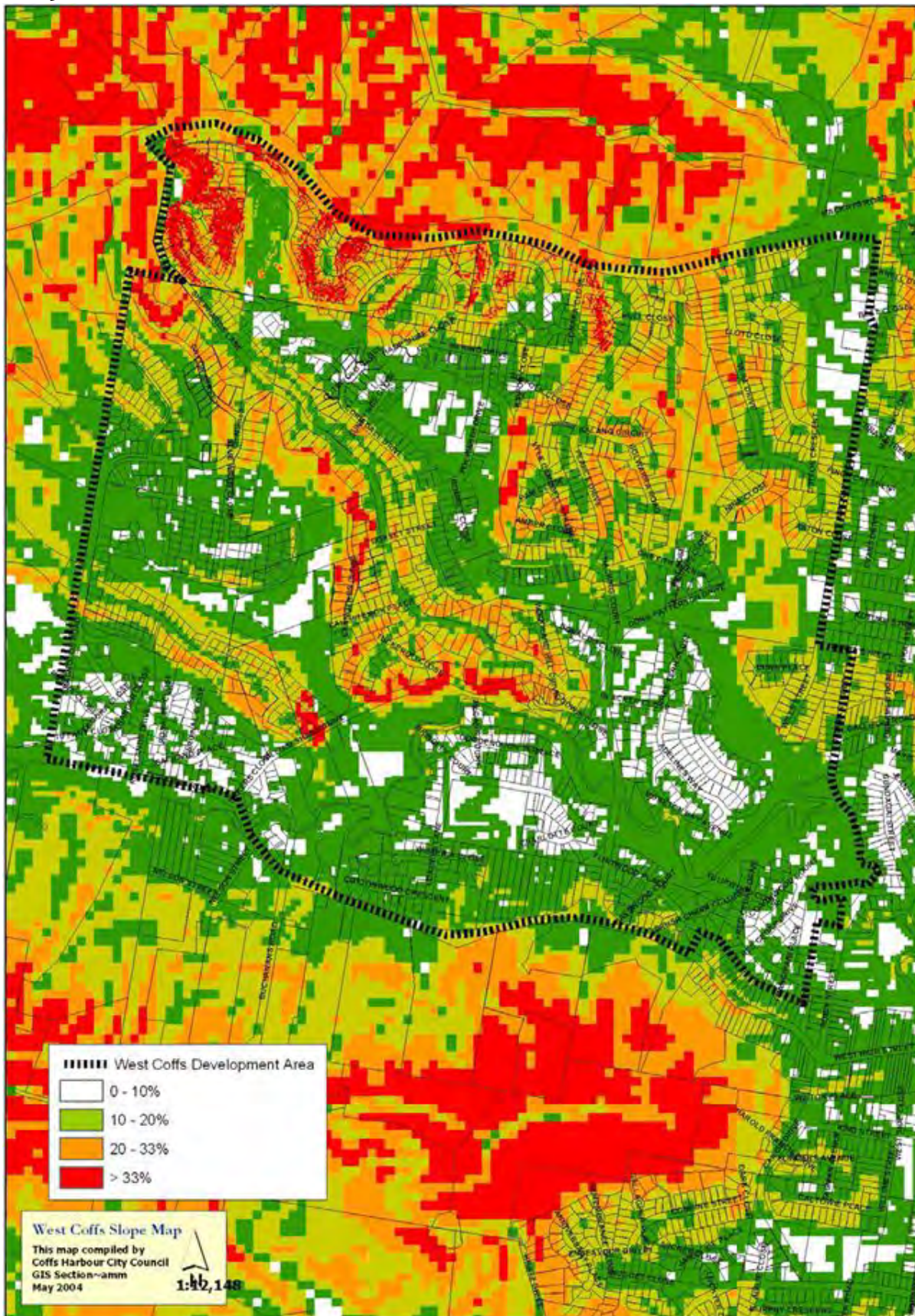
Attachment 3

- iv) Development applications (DA) for subdivision are to be accompanied by water quality modelling to demonstrate achievement of water quality targets identified in Council's [Water Sensitive Urban Design Policy 2009](#).

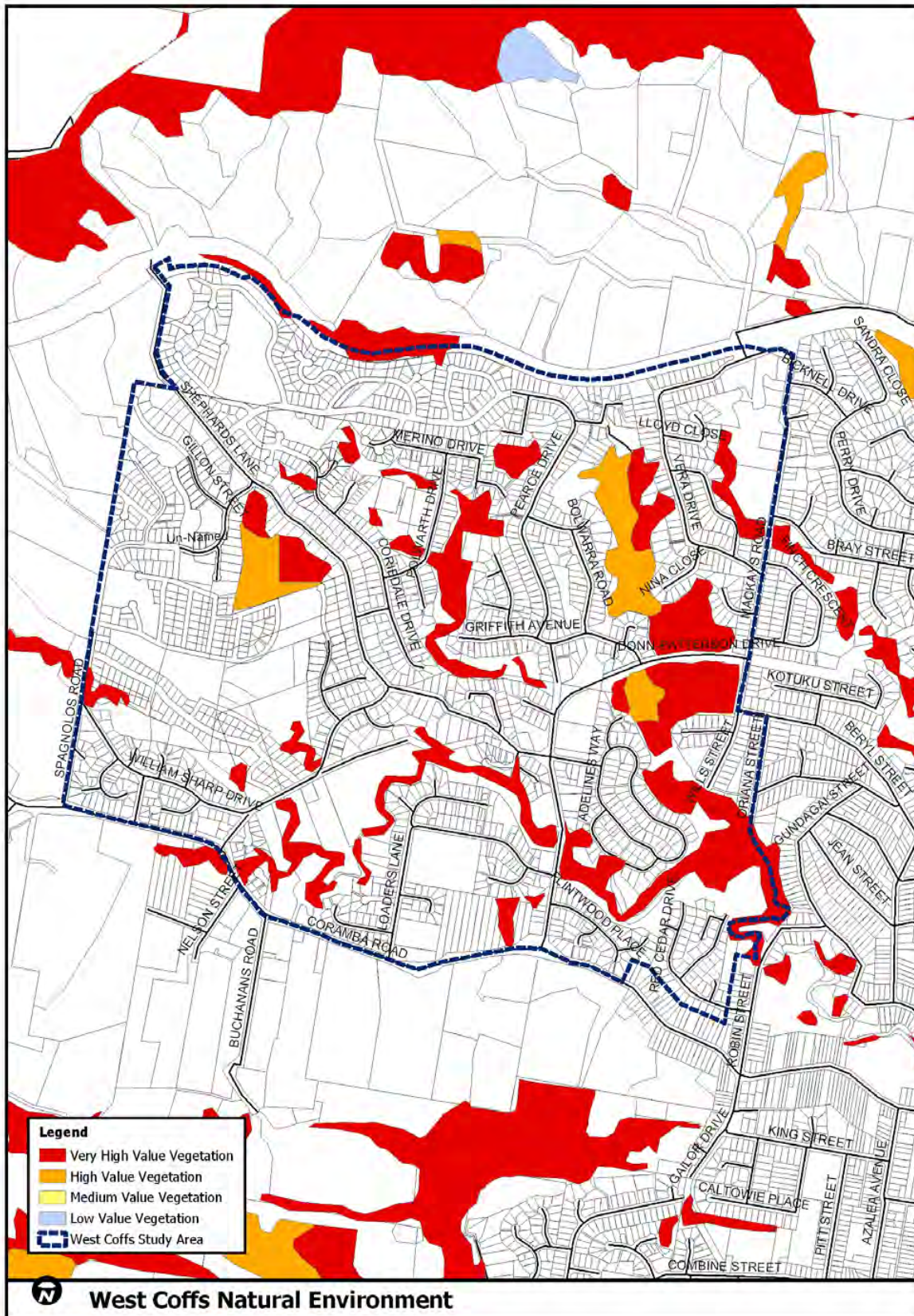
d) Natural and Habitat Areas

- i) Comprehensive rehabilitation plans are to be submitted for all riparian areas as part of the DA process.
- ii) Riparian areas are to be revegetated by developers in accordance with Council's standards before the release of subdivision and construction certificates.
- iii) Protected areas are to be fenced off before commencement of any earthworks.

MAP 3 - SLOPE ANALYSIS



MAP 4 - NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



Source: Coffs Harbour Vegetation Management Study (Ecograph 2002)

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

e) Contaminated Land

- i) Any land identified on Map 5 with a history of Banana Cultivation shall be tested and if necessary remediated to reduce the potential for public health risks.

f) Archaeology

- i) Applications for subdivisions involving ‘green field’ sites and or earthworks shall be accompanied by an archaeological report prepared by an appropriately qualified person.
- ii) All consents involving earthworks shall be subject to Council’s standard condition, which specifies action to be taken if any artefacts are unearthed.
- iii) Additional information and requirements can be obtained from [Regulation of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage](#).

g) Road Design and Access Control

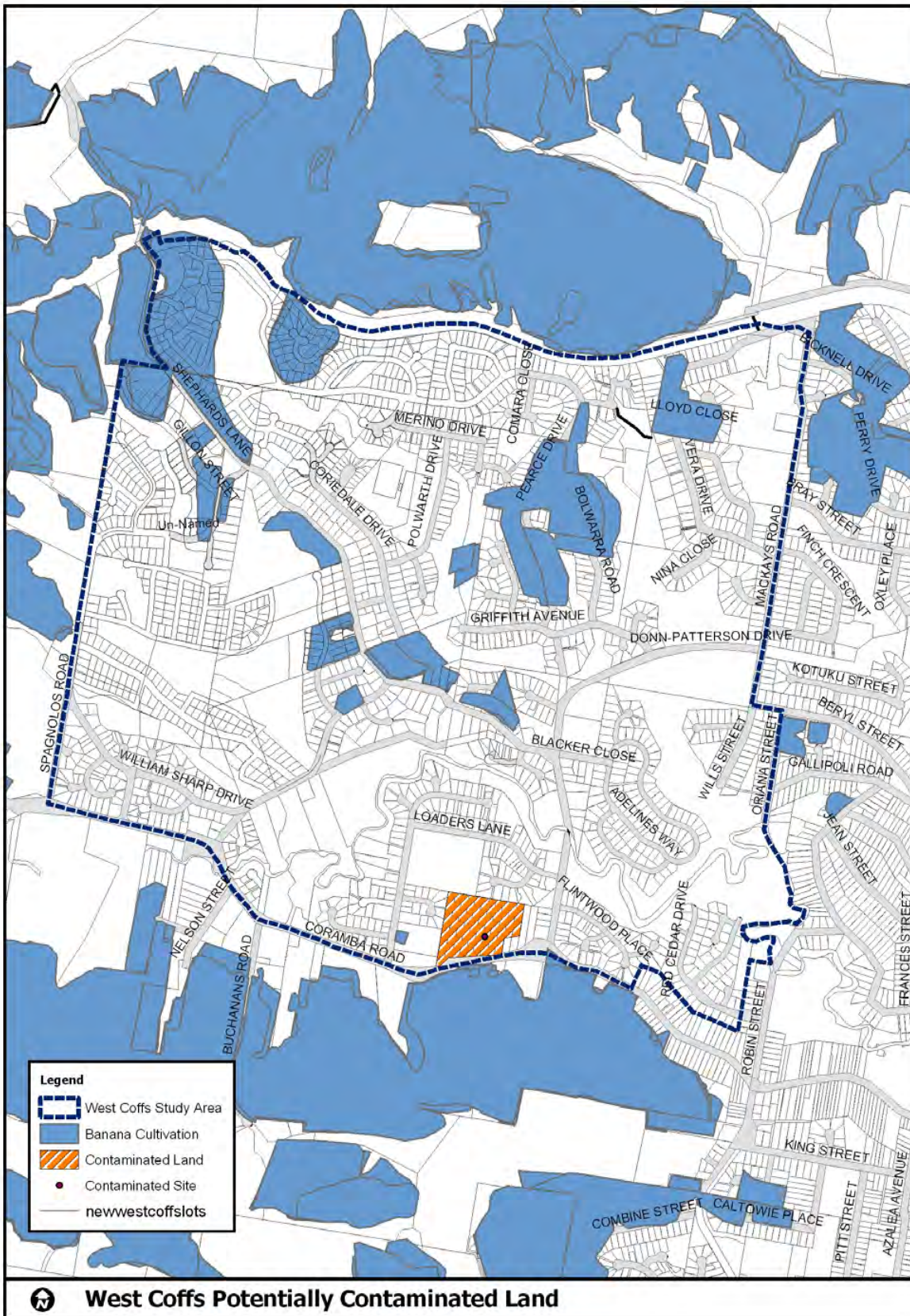
- i) A “conforming driveway” to each lot must be provided by the developer. The design is to be submitted to Council with the DA for dwellings.
- ii) Traffic control facilities, which include the construction of culverts across the Pearce Drive continuation and creek realignment shall be implemented.

h) Lands to be Acquired

- i) Lands to be purchased by Council are identified on the land acquisition map (refer to Map 6).
- ii) Lands that can not be developed due to significant constraints shall be incorporated into environmental protection areas and dedicated to Council at no cost. The majority of this land is identified in Map 6.



MAP 5 - CONTAMINATED LAND



MAP 6 – LANDS TO BE ACQUIRED/DEDICATED



COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E12 WEST WOOLGOOLGA

Applies to

Lands in the West Woolgoolga Release Area under Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 as show in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

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This Component provides detailed planning controls for existing and proposed development in the West Woolgoolga Urban Release Area.

E12.1 INTRODUCTION

The West Woolgoolga Urban Release Area is predominantly a low density residential housing area surrounded by land uses such as large lot residential development and rural activities.

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PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

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MAP 1 - LOCALITY



E12.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E12.1.1 Objective

1. To provide an overall plan for the area that enables the integration of existing and proposed development.

E12.1.2 Masterplan

- Achieve a minimum lot yield of 330 lots; an additional 944 people (refer to Map 2).
- Ensure that development is able to proceed at a reasonable cost to both developers and the community.
- Ensure that development of the area will contribute to the economic growth of Woolgoolga.
- Require development to conform to the planning controls listed in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

E12.1.3 Servicing Strategy

- Ensure that water is supplied by extending the existing water main network.
- Require the sewer rising main from Pump Station 14 to be upgraded and then diverted along the Pacific Highway to Pullen Street.
- Require proponents of development to construct several small pump stations and a gravity sewer line, as needed.

E12.1.4 Community Facilities Strategy

- Ensure that a neighbourhood park and children's playground are provided within 500m of the community to be served.
- Require pedestrian paths and cycleways to be constructed by the developer, except where they are within identified open space areas and along the collector road.
- Ensure that the construction of a cycle/pedestrian bridge occurs upon release of 165 lots.

E12.1.5 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Enable the collector road to be progressively constructed concurrent with subdivision/ development.
- Construct the realignment of Newmans Road will occur when 165 lots are released.

E12.1.6 Natural Environment Strategy

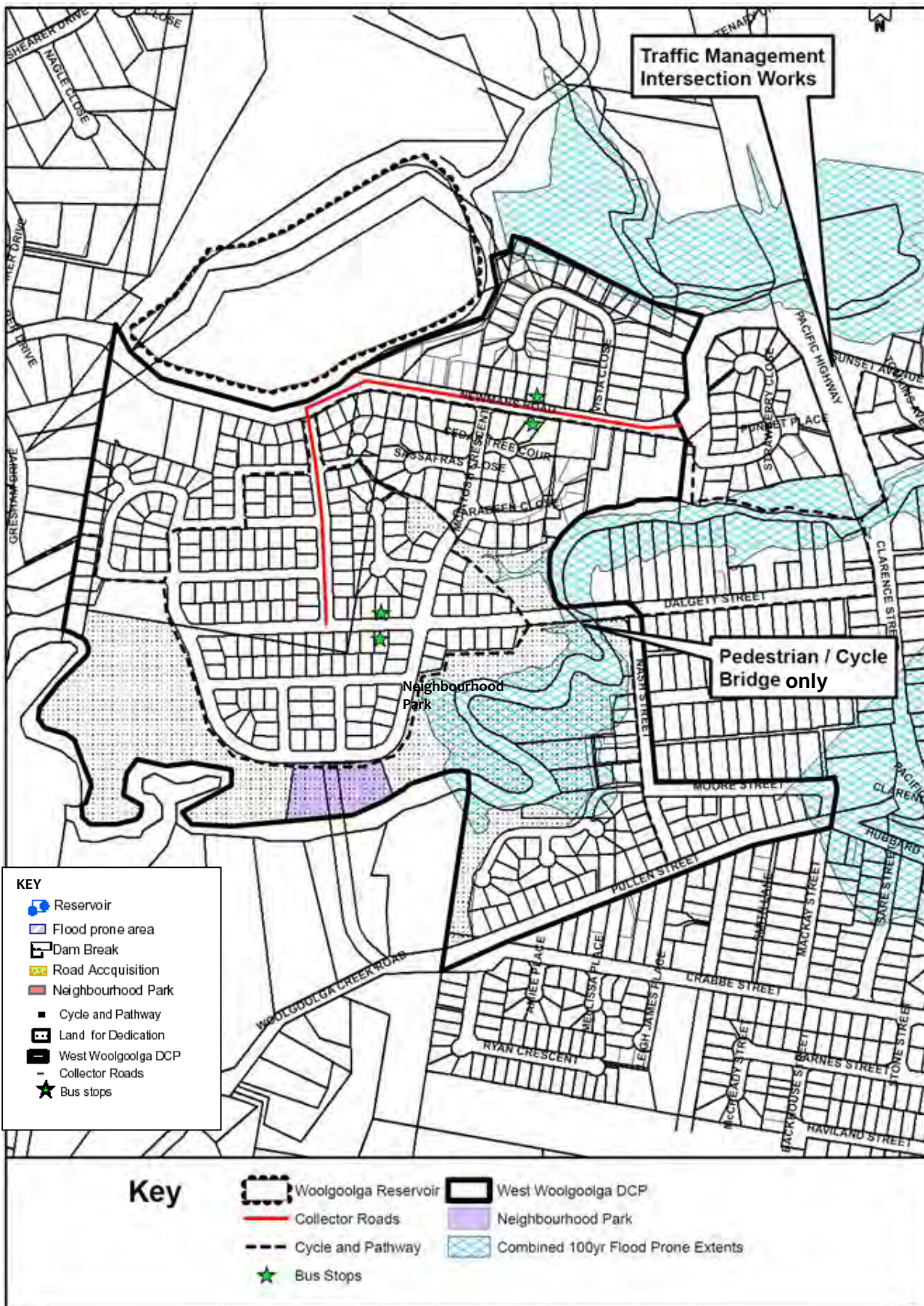
- Ensure that the identified areas for conservation shown on the Masterplan are dedicated as development occurs, and funded through developer contributions.
- Require a minimum 20 metre wide perimeter road to be provided adjacent to conservation areas.
- Ensure that the provision for bushfire Asset Protection Zones does not involve the clearing of native vegetation and conservation areas.
- Require that buffers are to be provided between proposed residential development and sensitive/ significant vegetation and riparian areas. These buffers will also facilitate Asset Protection Zones for bushfire protection purposes. The buffers become passive open space for community enjoyment.

E12.1.7 Desired Future Locality Character

- The future character of the West Woolgoolga Urban Release Area is the creation of affordable, environmentally friendly residential housing on allotments of varying sizes, with an average size of 700m².
- The majority of lots are to be oriented to facilitate solar access.
- Reducing reliance on private motor vehicles will be assisted with the provision of a suitable pedestrian/cycle network within the area, linking to district and regional facilities.



MAP 2 - MASTERPLAN



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

E12.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E12.2.1 Objectives

1. To ensure the release area is developed to its full potential but within its environmental capacity.
2. To ensure development only occurs when appropriate services are available to the release area.
3. To ensure water quality is maintained at acceptable levels in the release area by adopting best practice policies.
4. To ensure adequate protection of all forms of cultural heritage in the release area.
5. To protect and enhance environmental protection areas from future development and to ensure the environmental values of the Solitary Islands Marine Park are maintained.
6. To ensure that a high level of road design caters for good access (including for buses) and is of an acceptable standard to meet the needs of the community.
7. To provide for the active recreational needs of the community as development occurs.

E12.3.2 Controls

a) General

Development is to comply with the Planning Strategies outlined in E12.1 above, and the controls contained in this and other relevant Components of this DCP.

b) Target Densities

- i) The density of development (number of potential lots) shall be in accordance with the targets shown in Map 3. These targets provide for a minimum density.

- ii) Applicants will be required to demonstrate the means to achieve at least the minimum target density shown.
- iii) The maximum dwelling yield shall not exceed the target density by more than 15%.

c) Water Quality

- i) Development involving earthworks or vegetation removal shall be accompanied by a Sediment and Erosion Control Management Plan in accordance with Component D1 of this Development Control Plan (DCP).
- ii) Development shall incorporate best practice Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles in accordance with Council's [WSUD Policy](#).
- iii) Water quality in the creeks is to be protected through WSUD measures incorporating the "treatment train", rather than reliance on "end of pipe" solutions.

d) Archaeology

- i) Applications for subdivisions involving 'green field' sites and or earthworks shall be accompanied by an archaeological report prepared by an appropriately qualified person.
- ii) Additional information and requirements can be obtained from [Regulation of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage](#).



MAP 3 - TARGET DENSITIES



Pedestrian/cycle bridge only



~ NO TARGET DENSITIES SET AS SUBJECT TO APPROVED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION OR LAND HAS ALREADY BEEN DEVELOPED

PRECINCT	TARGET No. OF LOTS
1	139
2	102
3	32
4	57
TOTAL	330

e) Heritage Conservation

- i) Developers of land will be required to commission appropriate heritage impact assessment studies (Aboriginal and European) for development applications (DA) that may result in places, sites or objects with heritage significance being disturbed.
- ii) The assessment study is to identify the appropriate actions to be carried out in areas of cultural heritage sensitivity.

f) Pedestrian and Cycleway Paths

- i) The developer is to provide pedestrian and cycleway paths within the development in accordance with the Masterplan (refer to Map 2).

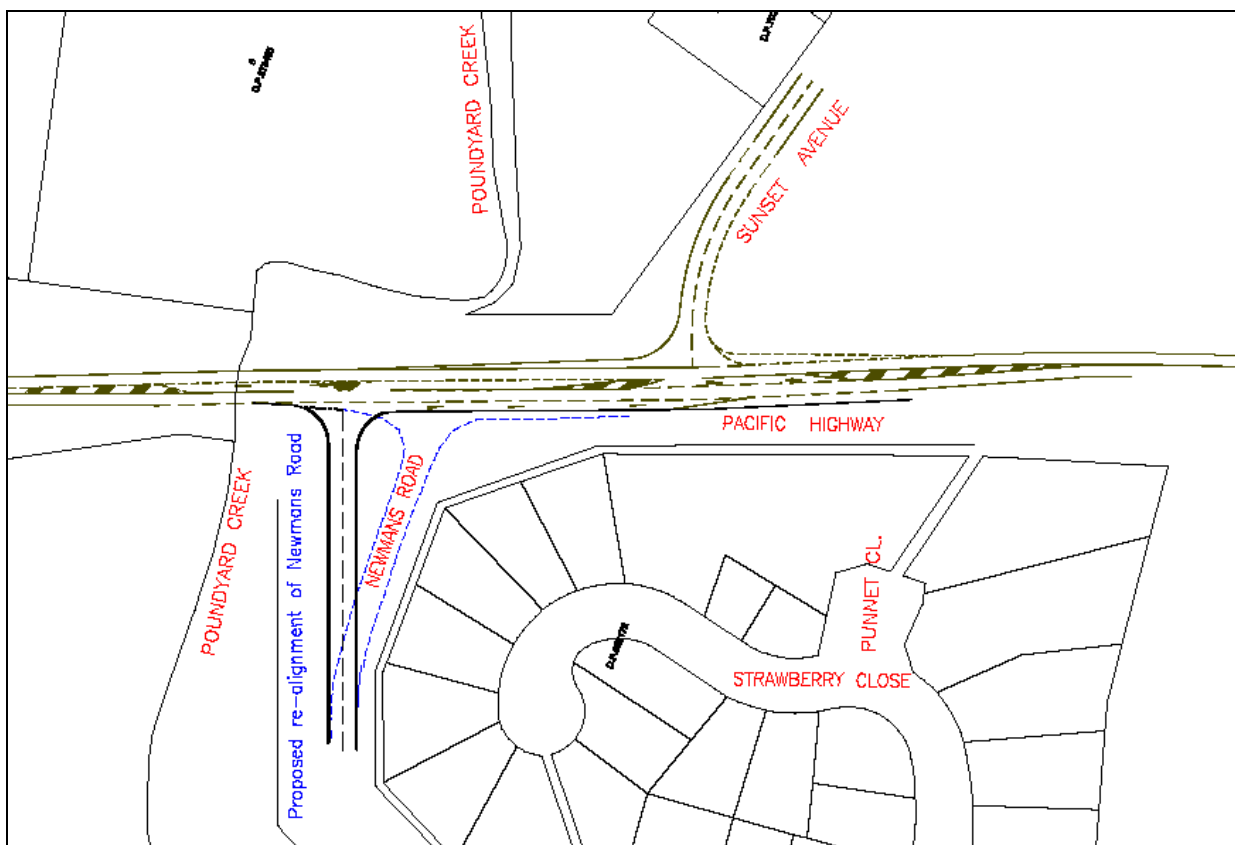
g) Road Design and Access Control

- i) The collector road is to be progressively constructed concurrent with subdivision/development.
- ii) Pedestrian paths and cycleways are to be constructed by the developer, except where they are within identified open space areas and along the collector road.
- iii) The cycle/pedestrian bridge will be commenced once sufficient funds have been collected in Section 94 Contributions.

h) Newmans Road Interchange

- i) The proposed realignment of the Newmans Road Interchange is shown in Map 4 below.

MAP 4 - NEWMANS ROAD INTERCHANGE



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

i) Noise

- i) Applications for subdivision within 300 metres of the Pacific Highway will be required to be accompanied by an acoustic report, identifying measures (mounding, acoustic barriers, building design, building materials, etc) to ensure future residents are not subject to unacceptable noise levels from the highway.
- ii) Applications must also comply with Clause 102 of the [State Environmental Planning Policy \(SEPP\) \(Infrastructure\) 2007](#): Impact of Road Noise or Vibration on Non-Road Development.
- iii) Assessment is to be undertaken by an appropriately qualified person, having regard to the Office of Environment and Heritage's [NSW Road Noise Policy](#). Development is to be conditional upon provision of these measures.

j) Lands to be Acquired/Dedicated

- i) Lands to be purchased by Council are identified on Map 5.
- ii) Lands that can not be developed due to significant constraints shall be incorporated into environmental protection areas and dedicated to Council at no cost. The majority of these types of lands are identified on Map 5.

MAP 5 - LANDS TO BE ACQUIRED/DEDICATED



COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E13 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA

Applies to

All lands in the Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 that are affected by the Pacific Highway development setback area as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

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This Component outlines the requirements for properties that are affected by the Pacific Highway development setback area.

E13.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E13.1.1 Objective

1. To provide a plan for lands adjacent to the Pacific Highway that fosters the integration of development and does not adversely impact on the environmental qualities of the land.
2. To protect the scenic qualities of the Pacific Highway, while still enabling appropriate development.

E13.1.2 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Ensure that the scenic qualities of specific locations of the Pacific Highway are protected (see Map 1).
- Ensure that development does not adversely affect the efficient operation of the Pacific Highway.

E13.1.3 Natural Environment Strategy

- Ensure that buffers are provided between the Pacific Highway and residential development.
- Ensure that sensitive/significant vegetation and riparian areas within the development setback area are protected.

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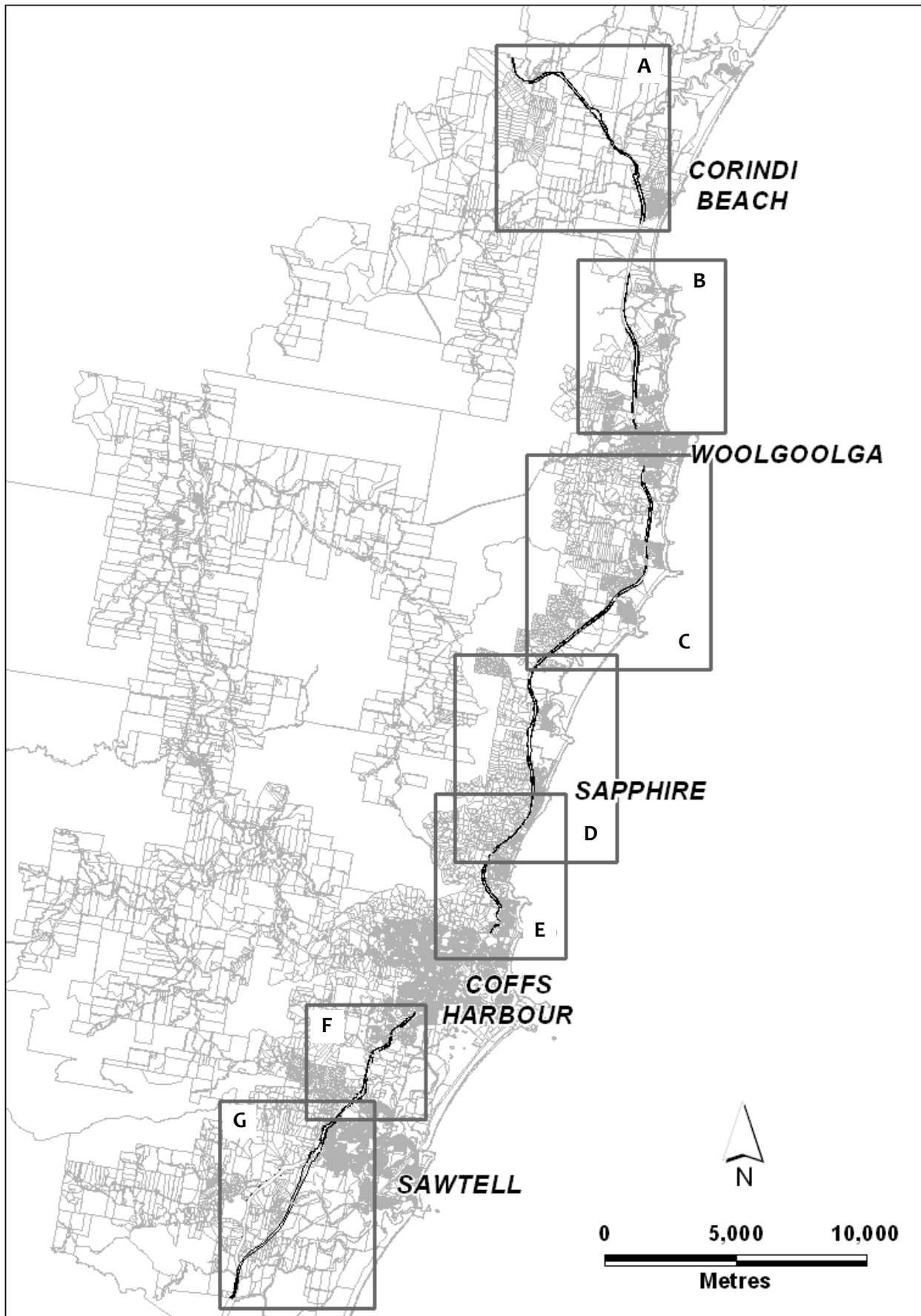
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COMPONENT E12 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
COMPONENT E13 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
COMPONENT E14 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F - GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013
MAP 1 - LOCALITY

Attachment 3



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

E13.2 PLANNING CONTROLS

E13.2.1 Objectives

1. To enable development that does not adversely impact on the scenic qualities of land adjacent to the Pacific Highway.
2. To enable development that is within the environmental capacity of the land and can be adequately serviced.

E13.2.2 Controls

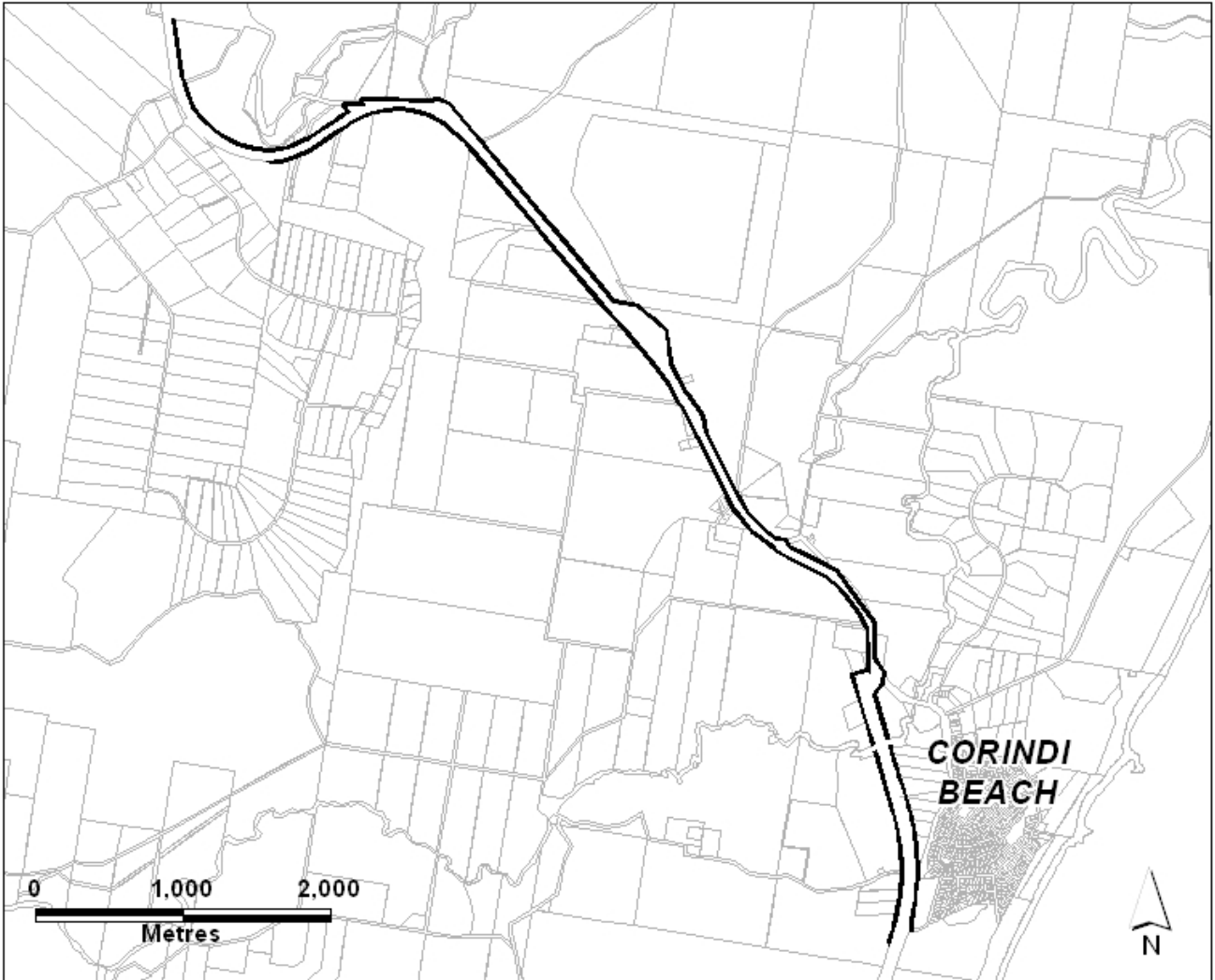
- i) Development is not permissible within the 20 metre wide Pacific Highway Development Setback Area identified in Maps 2-8, unless it can be demonstrated that:
 - the proposed development is unlikely to adversely impact on the scenic qualities of the locality; and
 - the proposed development is within the environmental capacity of the land; and
 - the proposed development can be adequately serviced.
- ii) Applications for development within the Pacific Highway Development Setback Area are to be accompanied by sufficient information to demonstrate how the planning controls and objectives are to be satisfied.

Note: The Pacific Highway Development Setback is 20 metres wide from the boundary immediately adjoining the Pacific Highway.

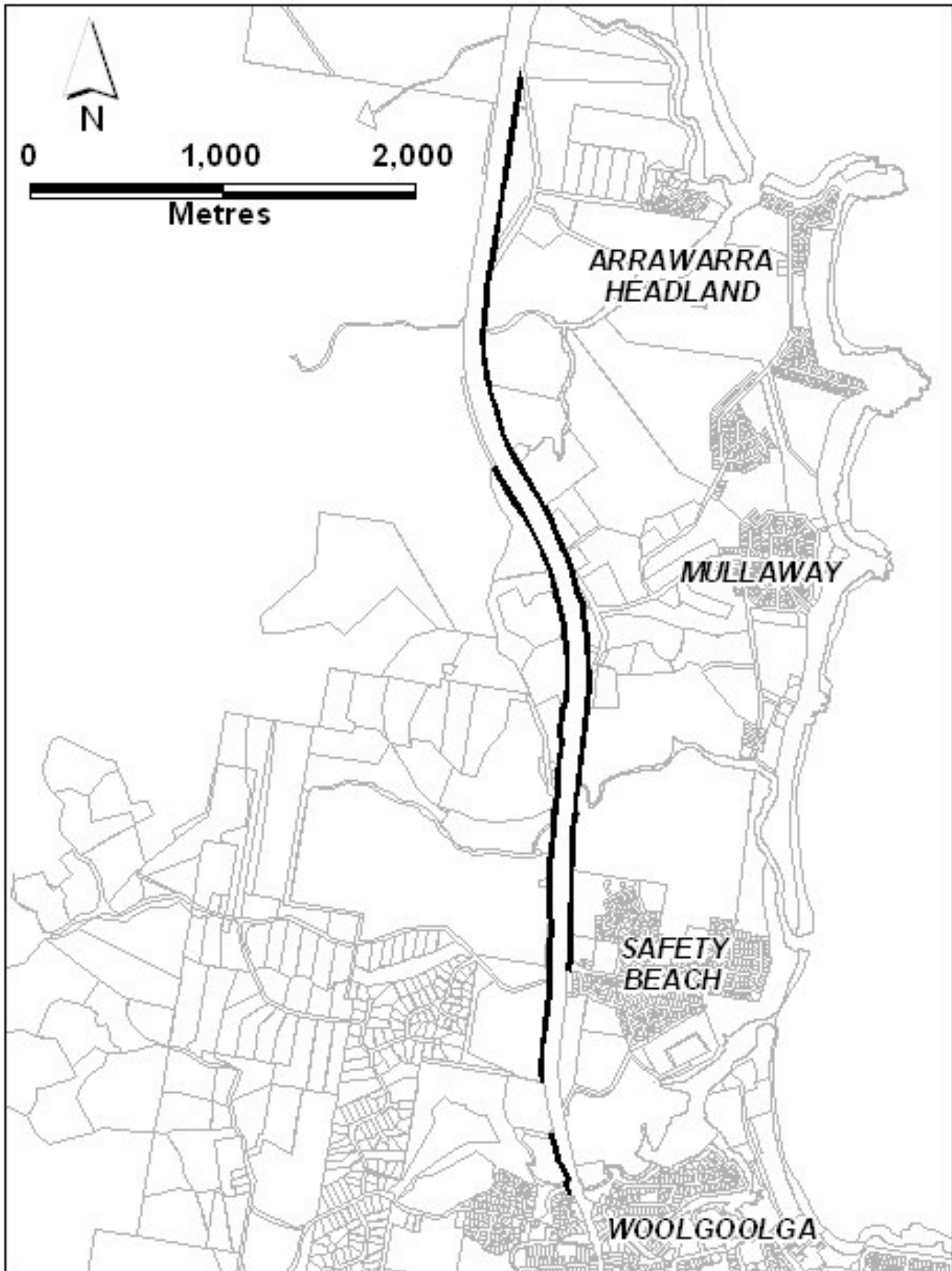


As reported to Council on 8 August 2013
MAP 2 – LOCALITY A

Attachment 3

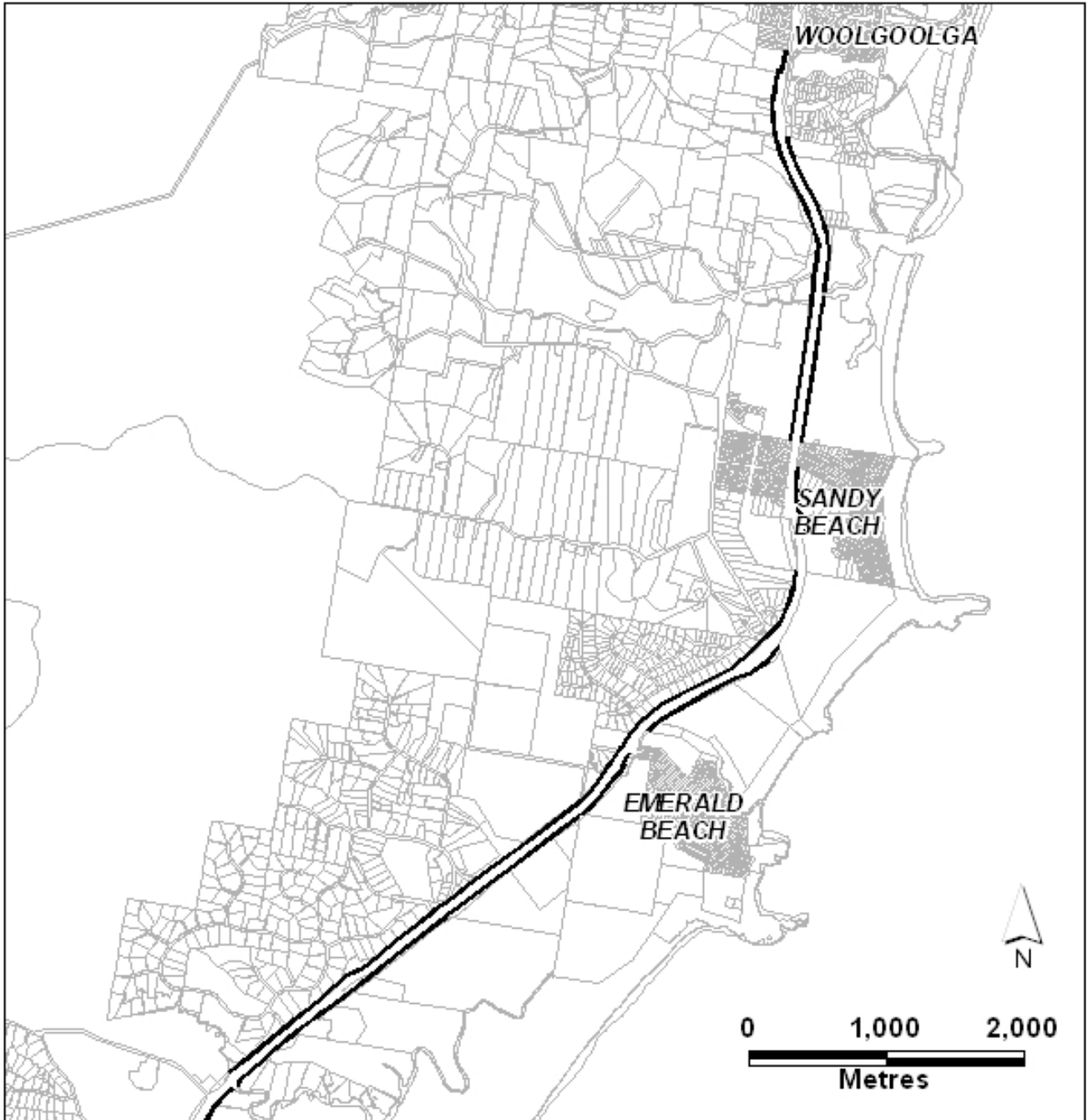


MAP 3 – LOCALITY B



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013
MAP 4 - LOCALITY C

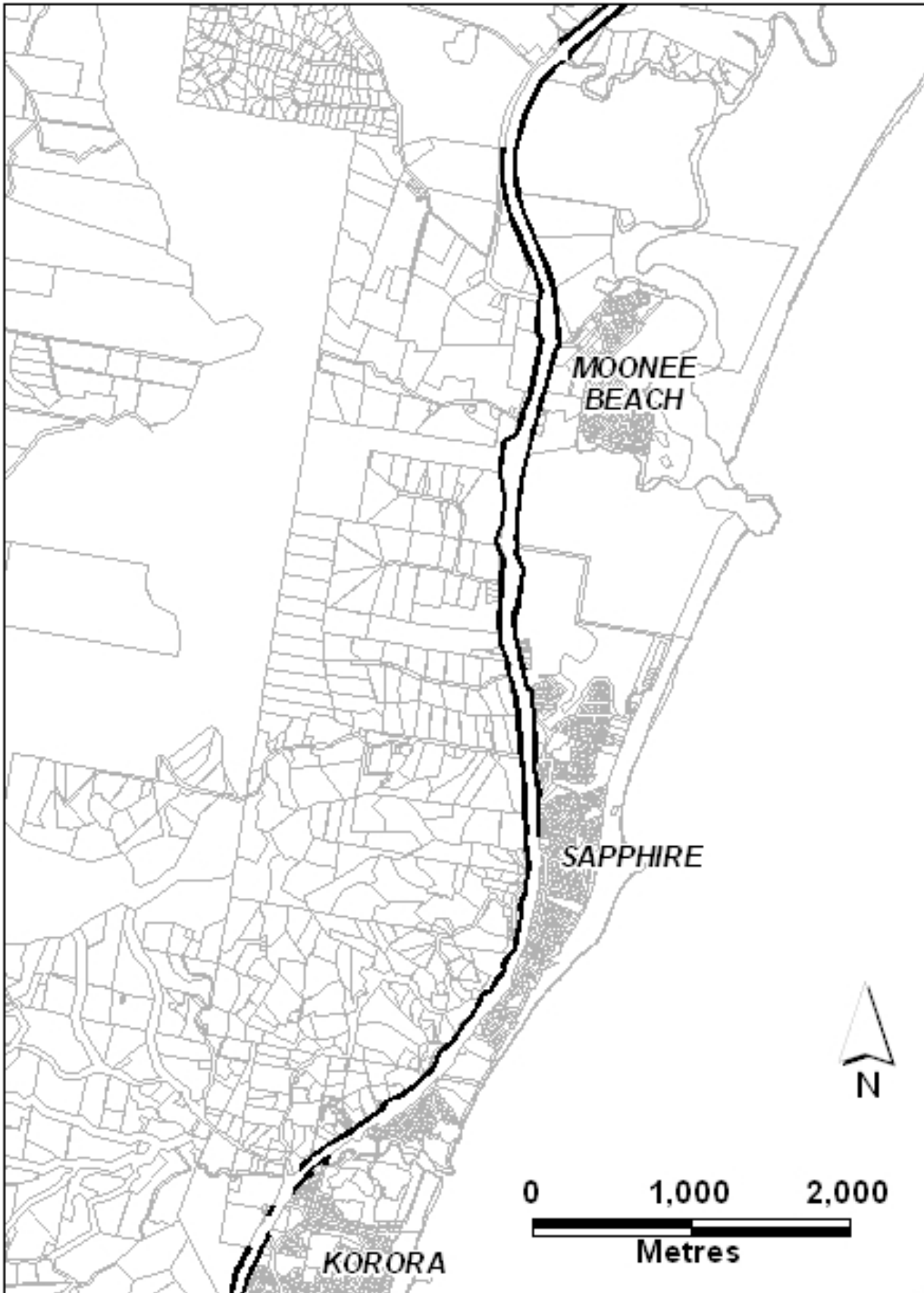
Attachment 3



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

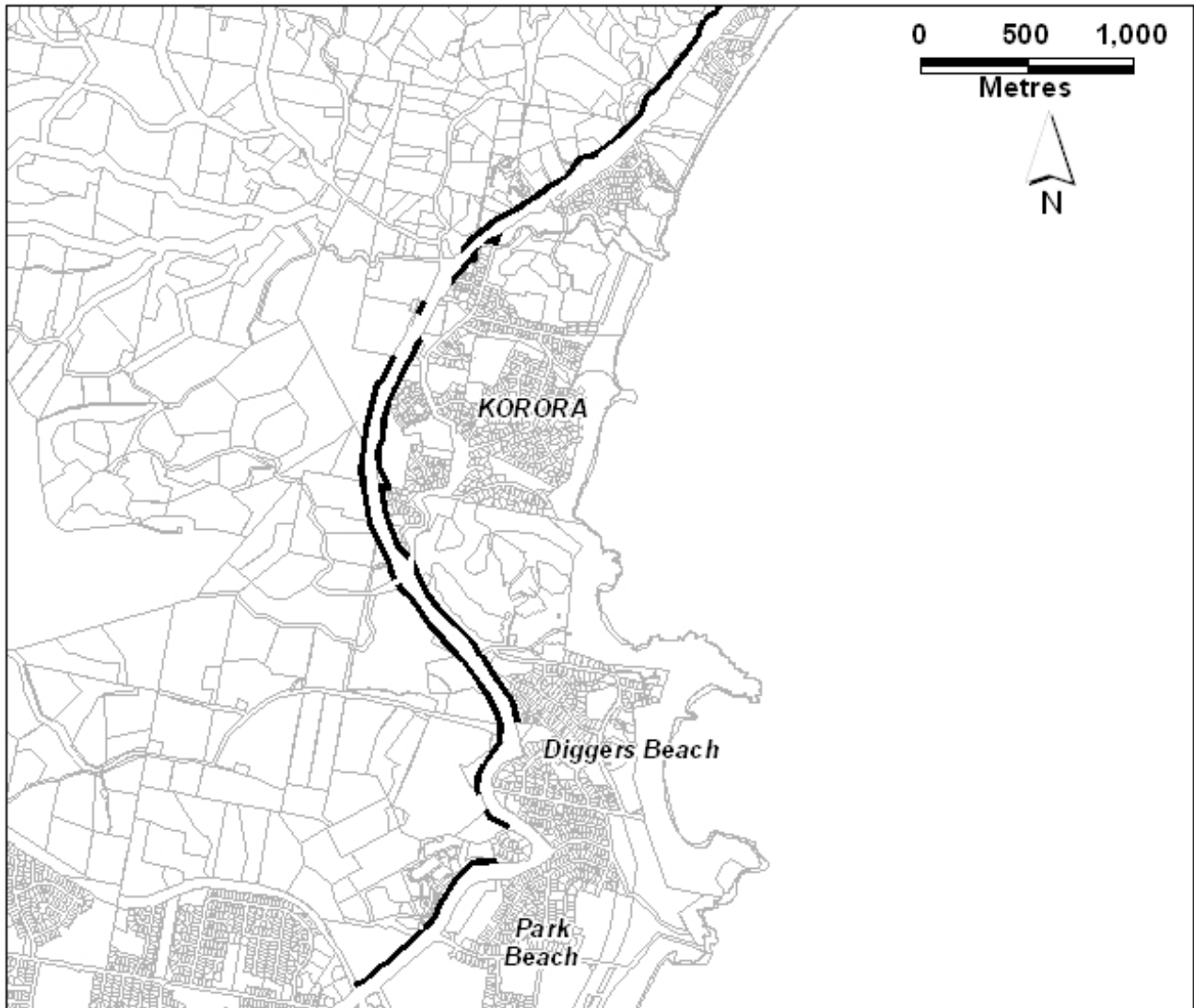
Attachment 3

MAP 5 – LOCALITY D

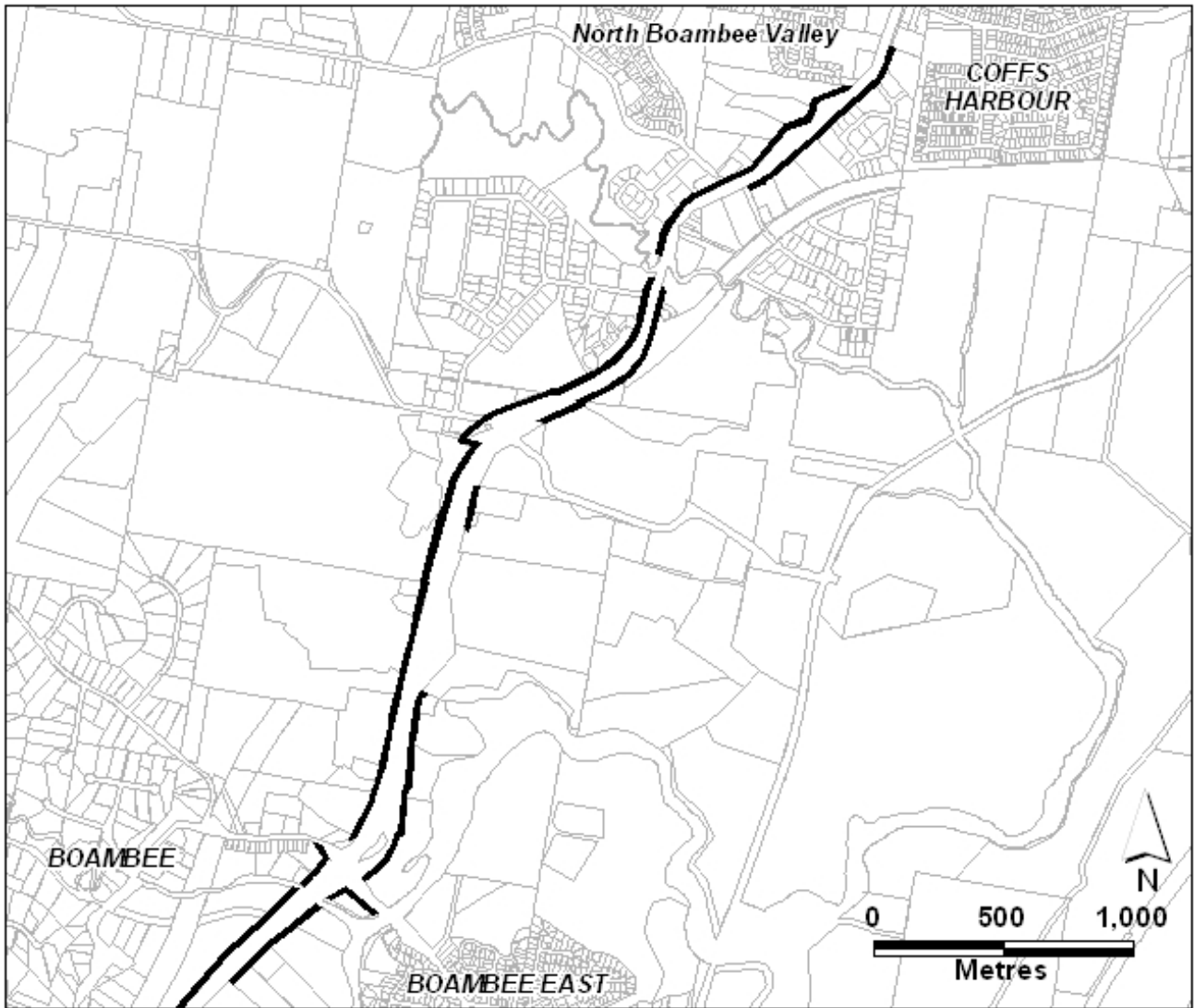


As reported to Council on 8 August 2013
MAP 6 - LOCALITY E

Attachment 3

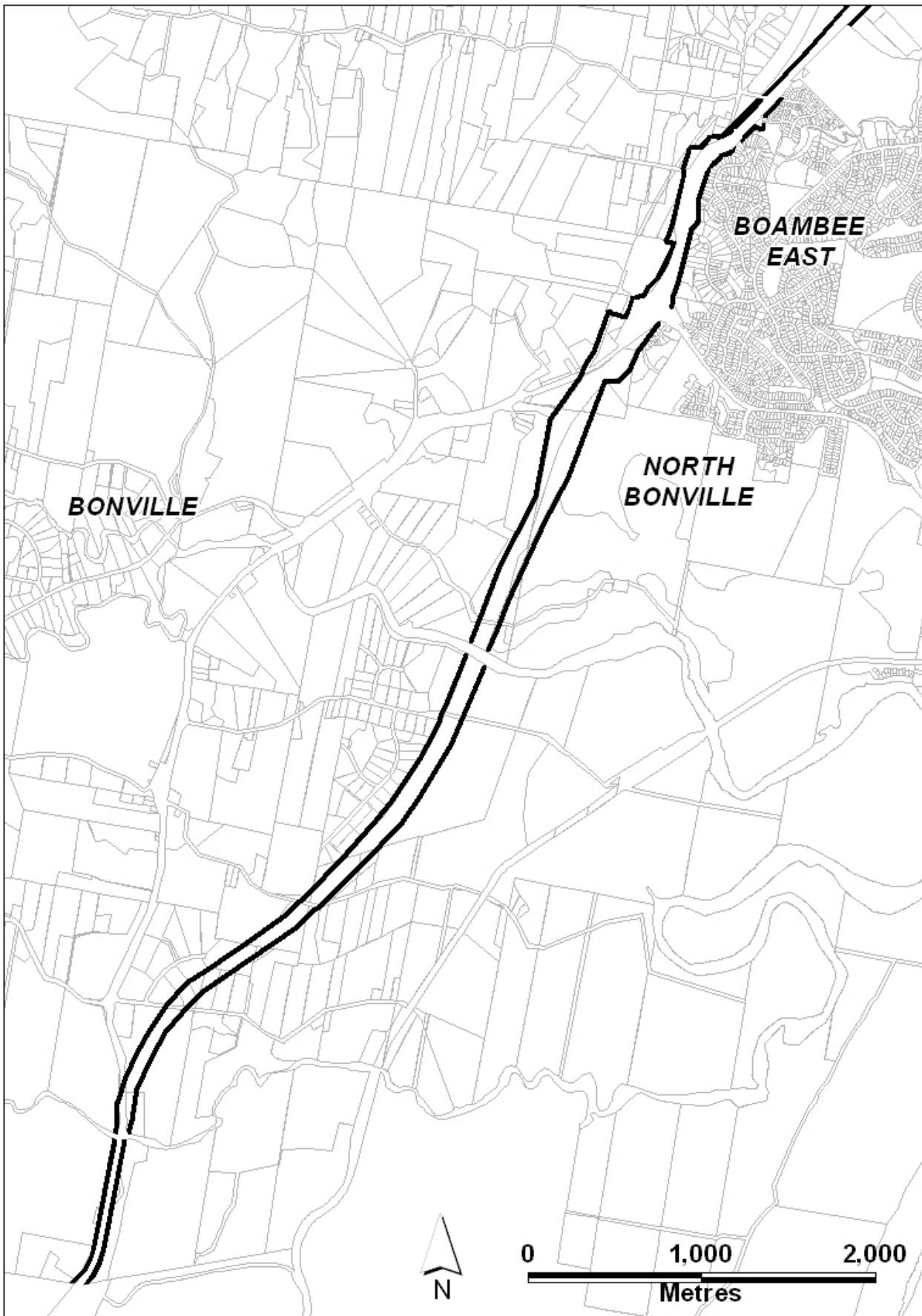


MAP 7 – LOCALITY F



As reported to Council on 8 August 2013
MAP 8 - LOCLAITY G

Attachment 3



COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
Locked Bag 155 COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450
www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au

COFFS HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013

COMPONENT E14 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT

Applies to

Development undertaken on lands in the Halls Road Business Precinct area, as shown in Map 1

Date adopted by Council

Day Month 2013

Effective Date

Effective upon gazettal of Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013

Amendments

Date and description of amendments

Disclaimer

The hyperlinks to various State or Federal Government legislation have been included in this Development Control Plan in good faith and were current at the time that this document was prepared.

Applicants, landowners and any person(s) using the hyperlinks should ensure that the relevant legislation or policy is the most up-to-date version. This information may be obtained from the relevant government authority administering the legislation.

This Component provides the development principles and site controls for development within the Halls Road business precinct.

MAP 1 – LOCALITY



DCP COMPONENTS

PART A - INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT A1 ADMINISTRATION
- COMPONENT A2 NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PART B - LAND USE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT B1 SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B3 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B4 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B6 POST EUROPEAN HERITAGE REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT B7 BIODIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

PART C – ISSUE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- COMPONENT C1 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C2 ACCESS, PARKING AND SERVICING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C3 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C4 ADVERTISING SIGNS REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C5 SEX SERVICES PREMISES REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C6 MINOR EARTHWORKS REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C7 WASTE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT C8 INTEGRATED (NATURAL) WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

PART D - HAZARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- COMPONENT D1 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D2 CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
- COMPONENT D3 FLOODING AND COASTAL HAZARD REQUIREMENTS

PART E - LOCALITY BASED SPECIAL INFORMATION

- COMPONENT E1 COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL AIRPORT
- COMPONENT E2 BOAMBEE CREEK
- COMPONENT E3 COFFS HARBOUR CITY CENTRE
- COMPONENT E4 HEARNES LAKE / SANDY BEACH
- COMPONENT E5 KORORA LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL MOONEE
- COMPONENT E6 NORTH BOAMBEE VALLEY (EAST)
- COMPONENT E7 NORTH BONVILLE
- COMPONENT E8 SAWTELL VILLAGE PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E9 SOUTH COFFS
- COMPONENT E10 WEST COFFS
- COMPONENT E11 WEST WOOLGOOLGA
- COMPONENT E12 PACIFIC HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SETBACK AREA
- COMPONENT E13 HALLS ROAD BUSINESS PRECINCT
- COMPONENT E14 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PRECINCTS

PART F – GLOSSARY AND APPENDIX

- COMPONENT F1 GLOSSARY
- COMPONENT F2 APPENDIX 1

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

E14.1 PLANNING STRATEGY

E14.1.1 Objectives

1. To provide a framework for a community that is sustainable, safe and vibrant.
2. To encourage compatible quality development in the Halls Road area.

E14.1.2 Masterplan

- Guide new development in the area in accordance with the Masterplan (see Figure 1).
- Require development to conform to the planning controls listed in this and other relevant components of this DCP.

E14.1.3 Urban Design Strategy

- Ensure that new development makes a positive contribution to the local streetscape.
- Ensure that new development successfully integrates with existing development.

E14.1.4 Business Strategy

- Allow some smaller retail and commercial development to provide for the day to day services of the local community.
- Allow for shop top housing as part of a mixed use proposal.
- Ensure that development on B6 zoned lands will support and not detract from the vitality of other commercial centres.

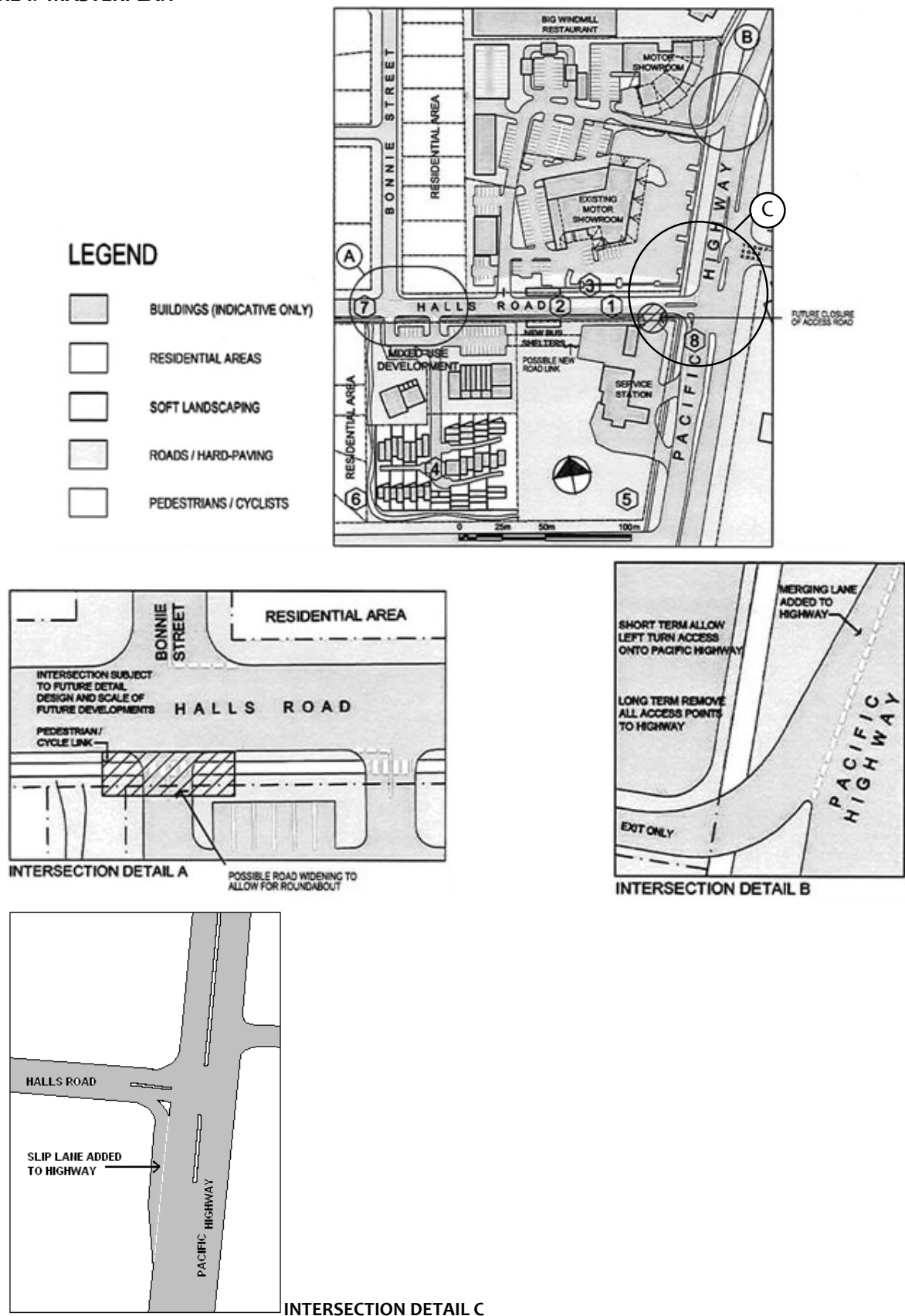
E14.1.5 Traffic and Transport Strategy

- Provide a new slip lane from the Pacific Highway to Halls Road.
- Provide pedestrian and cycle links.

As reported to Council on 8 August 2013

Attachment 3

FIGURE 1: MASTERPLAN



E14.2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

E14.2.1 Objectives

1. To ensure that development has a positive impact on the streetscape of Halls Road and the Pacific Highway.
2. To ensure that development provides for the safe and efficient ingress and egress to and from sites for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists.

E14.2.2 Controls

a) Access and Flooding

- i) No new access points onto Halls Road will be permitted within 90 metres of the Pacific Highway (refer ① on Figure 1).
- ii) Halls Road is to be an 11 metre wide collector road (refer ② on Figure 1).
- iii) The northern side of Halls Road (from the Pacific Highway to Bonnie Street) is subject to flooding – this requires drainage investigation. Additional pipes will be required to take stormwater south and connect with existing trunk drainage (refer ③ on Figure 1).
- iv) Low areas of the site (on the southern side of Halls Road) are subject to flooding and therefore will require some filling. Existing open channels are to be retained (refer ④ on Figure 1).
- v) All stormwater drains south of the eastern end of the service station site (Lot 11 DP1076396) are to run under the Highway and discharge into the existing drainage channel on the eastern side of the Highway (refer ⑤ on Figure 1).
- vi) Commercial land located in the western end of the study area, (south of Halls Road Lot 10 DP1076396), contains a drainage channel which requires rehabilitation (refer ⑥ on Figure 1).

vii) Pedestrian and cycle links, west of the intersection of Halls Road and Bonnie Street are to be provided (refer ⑦ on Figure 1).

viii) A new slip-lane off the Pacific Highway is to be provided (subject to detail design) and is to be determined by the scale of future development (refer ⑧ on Figure 1).

b) Site Specific

- i) Internal access arrangements are to ensure that all vehicles can enter and leave sites in a forward direction.
- ii) Bicycle storage racks are to be included in all major development proposals.

Note: Coffs Harbour Local Environmental Plan 2013 (LEP 2013) (Schedule 1) limits development for the purposes of shops, on Lot 10 DP 1076396 not exceeding 750m² per individual premises and to a maximum of 3,000m² gross floor area.

LOCAL FOOD FUTURES PROJECT - EVALUATION AND FINAL REPORT

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council on the evaluation and final report for the NSW Environmental Trust grant funded Local Food Futures Project.

Description of Item:

Background

The Local Food Futures Project was funded by the NSW Environmental Trust as part of the Urban Sustainability Program.

The project ran for 3.5 years from February 2009 to August 2012. The lead partner in the project was Coffs Harbour City Council. The project was delivered by a multi-stakeholder steering group, formed as part of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance and included Bellingen Shire Council, the Mid North Coast Local Health District and a number of local community groups with a focus on local food.

The vision for the project and of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance is *“the Coffs Coast region has a showcase sustainable local food economy that supports and sustains healthy, connected, strong and resilient communities who actively care for each other and their environment.”*

The aim of the Local Food Futures Project was to build community resilience towards the threats of climate change and peak oil and the need to transition to a more sustainable, low energy future.

The key focus areas for the project were:

- **Strategic Response** – the development of a regional Local Food Framework with key stakeholders and the formation of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance (LFA).
- **Community Awareness and Education** – a range of activities, events and workshops around local food production and consumption.
- **Showcasing** – two best practice community gardens showcasing sustainable living with a series of hands on community workshops.

Key Project Outputs and Outcomes

This report contains a summary of the outcomes of the Local Food Futures Project. The full Final Report (Attachment 1) and Evaluation Report (Attachment 2) being appended. The Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2010 – 2020, which was developed as part of the grant funded project is also appended (Attachment 3). All documents are also available for download at www.coffiscoastlocalfood.com.au

The key project outputs and outcomes are identified in the attached Final Report. They include:

- 18 projects delivered
- 82+ different events held with a total of 3,737 participants
- 11 gardens formed
- Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2012-2020 developed

- Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance (LFA) formed with 130 registered members on the website www.coffscostlocalfood.com.au
- LFA Facebook page has 695 “likes”
- 179 individuals registered on the LFA email database

Key Evaluation Findings

The full Evaluation Report is appended to this report and is also available at www.coffscostlocalfood.com.au.

Key evaluation findings were:

- 1. The Local Food Alliance has built active partnerships around local food and has made a significant impact in the region over the past two years*
 - 11 partnerships formed during the project
 - LFA and partners undertook 18 projects and ran over 82 different events with 3,737 participants
- 2. People are changing where they source their fruit and vegetables to favour local food*
 - 88% of survey respondents have changed where they buy fruit and vegetables in the past two years to favour local food supply
 - Increase of 5% over two years of those sourcing all their fruit and vegetables from grower’s markets (of those surveyed)
 - Those buying all their fruit and vegetables in a shop/supermarket has fallen from 28% in 2010 to 4.9% in 2012 (of those surveyed)
- 3. People are learning and implementing new skills around food production*
 - A significant increase (5.1%) in those people who source their produce primarily from their own gardens over the past 2 years (of those surveyed)
 - 21.9% increase in those who have a functioning vegetable garden from 2 years ago (of those surveyed)
 - 86% of community garden workshops attendees indicated they left with new skills and 95% left with increased knowledge
- 4. Support for local food systems is increasingly being integrated into local council policies and planning tools*
 - Bellingen Council DCP amended to encourage fruit and vegetable growing
 - Coffs Council Draft Community Garden Guidelines developed
 - Coffs Council Open Space Strategy supports community gardens
 - Bellingen Community Strategic Plan actively states support for local food systems in their LGA
- 5. There have been localised increases in biodiversity which will increase over time*
 - Over 150 different species of trees and plants planted over 6000m² in the community gardens, where previously there was a monoculture of invasive grasses
 - Observed increases in bird, insect and frog life.
- 6. The project has had a significant “ripple” effect with many secondary impacts and significant further dollars leveraged for the local economy*
 - At least 13 other projects have occurred as a result of partnerships and/or projects associated with the Local Food Futures project
 - The original \$250,000 Local Food Futures grant has leveraged a further \$102,380 in additional funding
 - Estimated in-kind time and cash contributions from the lead (CHCC) and other organisations is valued at \$239,460
 - Estimated volunteer time from community groups is valued at \$328,500

Sustainability Assessment:

- **Environment**

The project demonstrated a number of ways in which a strong local, sustainable food economy can enhance environmental sustainability. The project supported a number of projects that demonstrate the value of sustainable growing techniques through the use of organic and spray-free methods, as well as the value of local food in reducing food miles (and hence greenhouse gas emissions).

- **Social**

The project demonstrated the tremendous value of cross-sectoral partnerships in delivering sustainability outcomes, using a partnership model with local government, state agencies and local grass-roots community groups.

- **Civic Leadership**

The Council showed significant civic leadership in formulating the Local Food Futures project, applying for and receiving funding and then successfully leading the project to deliver a breadth of local food projects across the Coffs Coast region, including the setting up of Coffs Harbour City's first community garden.

- **Economic**

This project demonstrated the significant benefits that a strong local food system brings to the local economy. It has significantly raised the profile of the value in supporting a local food economy, by keeping dollars within the area, supporting local growers and building community and economic resilience towards external impacts on food supply such as climate change and peak oil.

Consultation:

Not applicable to this report.

Related Policy and / or Precedents:

No relevant policy or precedent.

Statutory Requirements:

Nil

Issues:

The Local Food Futures Project facilitated a wide range of activities that were embraced by local communities.

The grant funded project management resources provided the catalyst for the development and implementation of many high value projects. With project funding now expended there is risk that some projects may struggle to continue without access to funding and resource support. An ongoing legacy of the project is the value obtained through raising community knowledge, awareness and skills around the importance of producing and utilising local food.

Implementation Date / Priority:

No implementation date – for information only.

Recommendation:

That Council notes the successful completion of the Local Food Futures Project and the significant outcomes that it has generated for the local community.

Local Food Futures Project Part A: Final Report

Food for thought: Where food, community and change connect



August 2012

THIS IS A LOOKING AFTER OUR ENVIRONMENT PROJECT
Helping to achieve the 2030 Community Vision



Executive Summary

The Local Food Futures Project was funded by the NSW Environmental Trust as part of the Urban Sustainability Program. The project ran for 3.5 years from February 2009 to August 2012. The lead partner in the project was Coffs Harbour City Council. The

project was delivered by a multi-stakeholder steering group, formed as part of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance and included Bellingen Shire Council, the Mid North Coast Local Health District and a number of local community groups with a focus on local food.

A summary of the main projects implemented and the outcomes achieved are outlined below.

Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2010 – 2020

- The Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2012-2020 aims to support the development of a sustainable local food economy for our region.
- This project involved 60 attendees across 7 forums and feedback sessions to develop the framework.
- The framework is available for download at www.coffscostlocalfood.com.au



Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival

- The Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival was held in 2010 and 2011 and aimed to promote local food systems run on the principles of sustainability, resilience and social justice.
- A total of 350 people attended the Local Food Film Festival over the two years, viewing films such as ‘Vanishing of the Bees’ and ‘The Economics of Happiness’.

Permablitz Program

- The Permablitz program provided schools, community centres and local residents with an opportunity to engage with a qualified permaculturalist/ landscape architect in order to develop skills around planning and building productive gardens.
- A total of 9 permablitzes were held at schools and community centres with total of 164 participants.
- Approximately 1000m2 of land has been converted into productive garden beds as a result of the permablitz program.



The Coffs Coast Local Food Directory

- The directory is a partnership project between the local food directory ‘Local Harvest’ (www.localharvest.org.au) and the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance.
- A total of 14 businesses, groups and markets within the Coffs Coast region have registered on the directory to date.



The Farm Gate Trail & Seasonal Calender (Coffs Coast Harvest Guide)

- The Coffs Coast Harvest Guide is a comprehensive dining guide, featuring over 60 pages of information on local food experiences on the Coffs Coast. This project was developed to promote local producers, restaurants and businesses utilising local produce; to encourage greater use of local produce by consumers; and to promote greater tourist numbers in the Coffs Coast Hinterland.
- A total of 1200 copies of the Harvest Guide have been published and distributed throughout the Coffs Coast region.

Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance Website

- www.coffscostlocalfood.com.au has kept local foodies up to speed with what’s happening on the Coffs Coast. The website has a total of 119 registered members.
- The official website also provides useful links and resources to members and the general public.
- The Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance facebook site also has a strong following of 669 individuals.



Speakers Program

- The local food Speaker Program gave local communities the opportunity to hear from local, national and international speakers on the issues surrounding agrofood systems, the growing local food movement and the effect that Climate Change and Peak Oil are having on communities and our food systems.
- The Local Food Alliance ran a total of 8 speaker events with a total of 1,301 attendees.

Nutrition/ Cooking Workshops (Show Us Ya Dish)

- Garden2Kitchen and Show Us Ya Dish ran in 2010 and 2011, to demonstrate how to utilise local produce sourced from the markets in everyday meals.
- These events have attracted over 300 attendees to date and continue to be popular each year at the Grower’s Markets.



Edible Streetscapes

- The Edible Streetscapes projects were undertaken in Bellingen and Coffs Harbour, and attracted a total of 210 participants.
- This project showcases the importance of providing local children and adults with the direct experience of harvesting and eating fresh food and to generate increased ownership by the community of their open spaces and streets.

This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust



**Local Food Futures Project
Part A: Final Report**



Film Nights

- Local Film Nights in Coffs Harbour and Bellingen featured screenings of 'Food Inc' and 'Growing Change' and were attended by 200 individuals.
- These events aimed to increase awareness and knowledge of the problems associated with the dominant system of agrofood.

Scarecrow Competition

- The Schools Scarecrow Competition ran as part of the 2011 Sustainable Living Festival and received a total of 38 entries from 19 different Child Care Centres, Pre-schools and Primary schools throughout the Coffs Coast region.



Bellofoodbox

- The Bellofoodbox Marketing project has increased box numbers to a long-term sustainable number; promoted and facilitated the relocation of Bellofoodbox to allow for growth in box numbers and increased Bellofoodbox's list of local suppliers.

"Food4LYF"

- The 'Food4LYF' project engaged students from Bellingen High School in facilitated workshops to increase knowledge and skills around producing food and how to prepare produce for meals.
- These events were attended by 25+ high school students weekly over the school year.
- The program continues to run with funding from Bellingen High School.



Bellingen Community Garden

- Established by community members and Bellingen High School students and teachers, this community garden is founded on a commitment to promoting healthy active lifestyles.
- The garden was officially launched on 2nd June 2012.
- The garden is a teaching and learning space for Bellingen High School and the community.
- This garden showcases shared beds, learning spaces, a pizza oven, aquaponics system, composting and worm farms.

Coffs Regional Community Garden

- The garden goes from strength to strength, with 108 members.
- The garden has become a space for growing, learning and sharing, with numerous community groups involved.
- The garden features private allotments, shared beds, food forests, a nursery, and regenerated creek bed.



Introduction

This project established a diverse local food network that worked at the community level to achieve strong awareness about the importance of local food supply in a changing globalised world. The project reinforced that the issue of food is an accessible entrée into issues of sustainability and community resilience. Lessons around project management and changing institutional approaches to growing food were key outcomes.

This Final Report and the associated Evaluation Report located in Part B, form the final deliverable for the Local Food Futures Project. The project was funded by the NSW Environmental Trust as part of the Urban Sustainability Program. The project ran for 3.5 years from February 2009 to August 2012. The lead partner in the project was Coffs Harbour City Council. The project was delivered by a multi-stakeholder Steering Group, formed as part of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance.

Background

The Local Food Futures Project was developed to address the global threats of climate change and peak oil and the social threat surrounding health and well-being, that of obesity, poor diet and lack of access to fresh fruit and vegetables. The need to facilitate the development of a sustainable, resilient local food system is seen as being key to our ability to adapt to the ever-changing environmental, social and economic challenges that we face as we move into increasingly uncertain times.

The need for a sustainable and resilient local food system is increasingly being seen as a key strategy for climate change and peak oil mitigation and adaptation i.e. the need to cut carbon emissions associated with how we grow and transport our food and to build adaptive capacity within our communities to cope with the imminent major upheavals that we face.

As well as the environmental outcomes that can be delivered through relocalisation of our food system, there are also significant economic and social benefits. Increasing people's access to fresh fruit and vegetables is a key strategy for improving community health outcomes. Local food systems keep dollars in the local economy and provide increased opportunities for jobs around areas such as growing, processing, sales, restaurants and tourism.

The response to these needs and threats was the formation in June 2008 of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance. This group formed the Steering Group for this project and consists of partners

across state and local government and community groups. The partners bring a range of interests and expertise to the project around the themes of social, environmental and economic sustainability.

The project was designed with the aim of encouraging ownership of the project activities and outcomes by the community i.e. using a bottom-up, grass-roots approach to change. Since one of the major challenges in developing a local food system is that of consumer awareness and understanding of the value of local food, it was seen as important that the community group partners took the main responsibility for the education and awareness raising aspects of the project.

At the same time there was a clearly identified need to research, develop and implement a Local Food Strategy looking at the wider challenges of developing a local food system including all aspects of the food chain such as sustainable agriculture processes, distribution and markets for local growers, land use planning and urban design.

Vision and Aims

The vision for the project and of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance is

The Coffs Coast region has a showcase sustainable local food economy that supports and sustains healthy, connected, strong and resilient communities who actively care for each other and their environment.

The aim of the Local Food Futures Project is to build community resilience towards the threats of climate change and peak oil and the need to transition to a more sustainable, low energy future.

Objectives

- To formulate a multi-level strategic planning response facilitating food relocalisation in the area.
- To increase community knowledge, awareness and skills in sustainable consumption and healthy lifestyles around the theme of local food
- To support community groups in showcasing sustainable living activities for the wider community around the production of local food



Key Focus Areas

An initial needs assessment undertaken as part of the development of the Local Food Framework identified a number of key areas that stakeholders felt were important areas to be working in. These included production, distribution and consumption themes and are outlined in the Coffs Coast Local Food Framework document (Available for download at www.coffscostlocalfood.com.au). The number one priority was seen as being consumer education. Therefore the Local Food Futures Project focussed mainly in this area. Some of the areas relating to production and distribution were seen as being beyond the capacity of this project, with a total budget of just over \$250,000 over three years. The project was therefore designed around three key focus areas.

Key Focus Areas

Strategic response - Developing a strategic response to the challenges outlined above and the development of a local food system for the region. This project developed the Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2010 - 2020

Consumer awareness - Increasing community knowledge, awareness and skills in sustainable consumption and healthy lifestyles around the theme of local food. This focus area included a range of community awareness raising activities, events and workshops

Showcasing - Supporting community groups in showcasing sustainable living activities for the wider community around the production of local food through the development of two showcase educational community gardens and the running of associated hands on workshops

Location

The project location identified in the Business Plan was the local Government areas of Coffs Harbour and Bellingen. During the project the Nambucca Local Food Network also became involved and therefore the project was also able to deliver a number of outcomes within the Nambucca local government area.

Governance

The project was over seen by the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance (LFA) Steering group which consisted of representation from local government, health and education providers and local community groups.

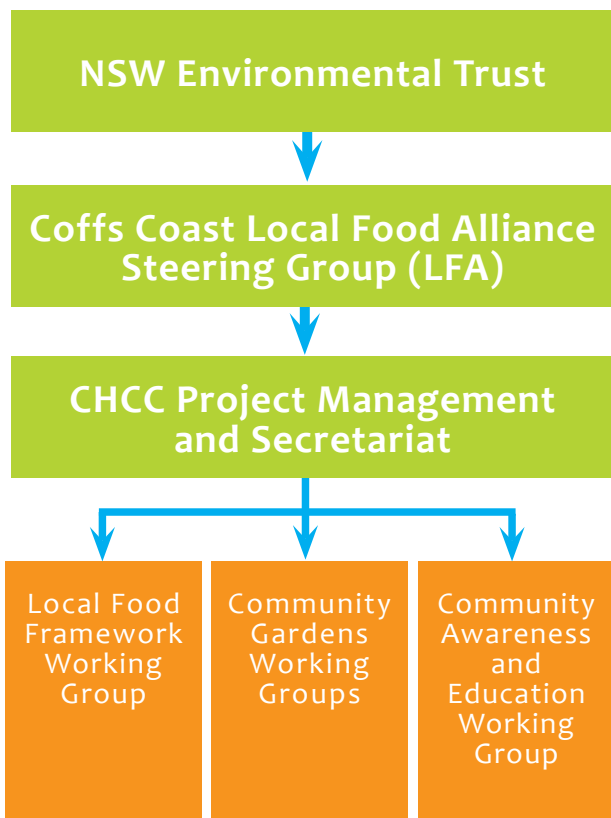
The project was managed by Coffs Harbour City Council (CHCC) and the secretariat of the Local Food Alliance was also housed at the Council.

The Steering Group consisted of the following initial membership:

- Coffs Harbour City Council (CHCC)
- Bellingen Shire Council (BSC)
- Bellingen Local Food Network (BLFN)
- Coffs Regional Organic Producers Association (CROPO)
- North Coast Local Health District (NCLHD)
- TAFE NSW (TAFE)
- Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare (CHRL)
- Bellingen Landcare (BL)

The membership changed over the duration of the project with the Bellingen Local Food Network changing to become the Bellingen Community Gardens Association (BCGA). Once the Coffs Regional Community Gardens Association (CRCGA) was formed they replaced CROPO on the Steering Group. Neither of the local Landcare groups were actively involved throughout the project although they were active in the promotion of sustainable agriculture through a small farms network and the running of a number of workshops.

The governance structure for the project is shown below:



Milestones

The Milestone Timetable is outlined below:

Milestone	Milestone Date	Evidence of Milestone Achievement	Status
1. Community garden coordinators employed; garden and education projects commenced	31 May 2010	Milestone Report 1 including: Copies of Coordinator contracts Documentation outlining activities commenced	Complete
2. Skills workshops developed for roll out to community	30 Sept 2010	Milestone Report 2 including: Plan of workshop format/resources	Complete
3. Progress Report to Trust	31 Dec 2010	Milestone Report 3 including: Progress Report Financial Statement Amended Business Plan	Complete
4. Community engaging with project through education projects and workshops	31 May 2011	Milestone Report 4 including: Interim evaluation of education projects and workshops	Complete
Project evaluation with partners completed	30 Nov 2011	Milestone Report 5 including: Interim evaluation report	Complete - Combined
Project Completion	31 August 2012	Final Report and Final financial statement	



This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust





Project Activities Summary

Project activities were based around the three key focus areas. There was an initial list of project activities outlined within the Business Plan. Some of these were adapted as the project progressed. In addition other activities were included that were not in the original activities list. This allowed the project to remain flexible to work within the emerging

interests of the local community and to leverage from or add value to other projects and activities within the region.

The table below highlights the activities undertaken or supported by the project. Those in the original Business Plan are identified in orange text.

Key Focus Area	Project	Budget (from Local Food grant)	Status
Strategic Response	Development of Coffs Coast Local Food Framework	\$10,000	Complete
	Coffs Council Community Garden Policy and Guidelines	CHCC in-kind staff time	Partially complete
	Bellingen Council DCP amendments	Bellingen in-kind staff time	Complete
	Local Food Assessment	-	Complete, separately funded by North Coast Local Health District
Consumer awareness	Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival (and Short Film Competition)	\$11,000	Complete and continuing
	Permablitz	\$8,500	Complete
	Eden at Home project	-	Complete, facilitated by Community College
	Coffs Coast Food Directory	CHCC in-kind staff time	Complete and continuing
	Farm Gate Trail and Seasonal Calender	\$1,000	Complete
	LFFA resources	\$1,000	Complete
	Speaker program	\$10,000	Complete and continuing
	Coffs Coast Local Food Branding Feasibility Study	-	Not undertaken
	Adopt-a-farmer	-	Not undertaken
	Nutrition/cooking workshops	\$9,000	Complete and continuing
	Bush food / bush medicine and multicultural food	Part of community garden budget	Complete
	Grower information and support	-	Not undertaken
	Farm Visits	-	Not undertaken
	Longest Lunch	CHCC in-kind staff time	Complete
	Edible Streetscapes	\$9,000	Complete and continuing
	Local film nights	\$1000	Complete and continuing
	Schools scarecrow competition	CHCC in-kind staff time	Complete and continuing
	Bellofoodbox marketing	\$5000	Complete and continuing
Youth local food project	Part of community garden budget	Complete and continuing	
Showcasing	Community Garden in Bellingen		Complete and continuing
	Community Garden in Coffs Harbour		Complete and continuing

Key Focus Areas - Summary of Outcomes

Focus Area Activities

The major achievements and outcomes of each project Key Focus Area are listed in the Key Focus Area Reports below.

Key Focus Area: Strategic Response

- Stakeholder List**
- NSW Environmental Trust
 - Bellingen Shire Council
 - Coffs Harbour City Council
 - North Coast Local Health District
 - NSW Farmers Association

Financial Statement Total Project Budget: \$40,740 (incl. project management)
Total Inkind/ Cash Contributions: \$76,926

Summary of the Focus Area The business plan identified the need to develop a strategic response to the challenges of building community resilience towards the threats of climate change and peak oil and the development of a local food system for the region. The project resulted in the development of the following strategic documents:

- Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2010 – 2020
- Bellingen Shire Council DCP amendments – development of guidelines for local food in new developments
- Draft Coffs Harbour City Council Community Garden Policy and Guidelines
- Local Food Assessment (separately funded)

Evaluation – Outcomes The Strategic Response Key Focus Area has supported a range of strategic documents that have been driven by government agencies and community members.

- The development of the Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2010 – 2020
- Distribution of 2000+ Framework brochures throughout the community
- 60 attendees across 7 forums and feedback sessions to develop the framework
- Amendment to DCP, adopted by Bellingen Shire Council, seeking to encourage fruit and vegetable growing.
- Draft Community Garden Policy and Edible Landscapes Guidelines has been developed for Coffs Harbour City Council consideration and endorsement
- Completion of a Local Food Assessment, with additional funded received from the Mid North Coast Local Health District





**Local Food Futures Project
Part A: Final Report**

Key Focus Area: Consumer Awareness and Education

Stakeholder List

- NSW Environmental Trust
- Bellingen EYE
- Bellingen Chamber of Commerce
- Bellofoodbox
- Northbank Community Garden
- Local schools and pre-schools
- Bellingen Community Garden Association
- Coffs Grower’s Market
- Coffs Harbour City Council
- Bellingen Council
- Coffs Community College
- Local Harvest
- Growers and Distributors
- Coffs Community College
- Mid North Coast Local Health District
- Nambucca Local Food Network

Financial Statement

Total Project Budget: \$65,160
Total Inkind/ Cash Contributions: \$177,534

Summary of the Focus Area

The Consumer Awareness and Education Key Focus Area was developed in the business plan to increase community knowledge, awareness and skills in sustainable consumption and healthy lifestyles around the theme of local food. This focus area was a concentrated program of skilling workshops, demonstration events and community gatherings, complimented by print media and web based promotion.

The Consumer Awareness and Education KFA has resulted in a number of projects within the Bellingen and Coffs Harbour LGA’s, with projects reflecting the desire to support grassroots action to enable more sustainable food systems.

The Consumer Awareness and Education approach facilitated broad community engagement, and provided networking opportunities for project participants, resulting in a strengthened network of local community groups, grower’s markets, community gardens and educational institutions. This network will be fundamental in ensuring community commitment to local food systems beyond the Local Food Futures Project.

The following activities were implemented under this Key Focus Area:

- **Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival and Short Film Competition** held in 2010 and 2011 provided the region with an opportunity to increase awareness about the issues surrounding our dominant agrofood system. The festival aimed to promote local food systems run on the principles of sustainability, resilience and social justice..
- The **Permablitz** program provided schools, community centres and local residents with an opportunity to engage with a qualified permacultist/ landscape architect in order to develop skills around planning and building productive gardens. The Permablitz program aimed to promote community engagement and mutual support around local food growing and associated issues.
- The **Eden at Home Project** was run by the Coffs Community College with support from the Mid North Coast Local Health District. The aim of the course was to inspire and assist participants to grow backyard food in the subtropical mid north coast. The main focus of the short introductory course was on growing veggies and herbs organically with a brief introduction to fruit/nut trees and fruiting vines and small chook systems. The course also covered the basics of compost making and worm farming.
- The **Coffs Coast Local Food Directory** is a partnership project between an existing local food directory ‘Local Harvest’ (www.localharvest.org.au) and the LFA. The alliance is promoting Local Harvest as a central directory point whereby local producers, markets, wineries etc can list their business or event for free.
- The **Farm Gate Trail & Seasonal Calender** (Coffs Coast Harvest Guide) has been developed to promote local producers, restaurants and businesses utilising local produce; to encourage greater use of local produce by consumers; and to promote greater tourist numbers in the Coffs Coast Hinterland. Additionally this guide includes a seasonal food guide for the Coffs Coast.
- A number of promotional **LFA resources** were developed

Summary of the Focus Area (continued)

- The local food **Speaker Program** gave local communities the opportunity to hear from local, national and international speakers on the issues surrounding agrofood systems, the growing local food movement and the effect that Climate Change and Peak Oil are having on communities and our food systems.
- **Nutrition/ Cooking Workshops** such as the Show Us Ya Dish competition and Garden2Kitchen were developed in order to raise the profile of the Coffs Grower's Markets that operate every Thursday. These events aimed to demonstrate how to utilise local produce sourced from the markets in everyday meals.
- The **Edible Streetscapes** projects in Bellingen and Coffs Harbour aimed to promote the production of local food and its links to sustainability; to provide local children and adults with the direct experience of harvesting and eating fresh food and to generate increased ownership by the community of their open spaces and streets.
- **Local Film Nights** in Coffs Harbour and Bellingen aimed to increase awareness and knowledge of the problems associated with the dominant system of agrofood..
- The **Schools Scarecrow Competition** ran as part of 2011 Sustainable Living Festival, to give schools an opportunity to build their own scarecrow using recycled materials. The competition aimed to encourage local schools to become involved in the Sustainable Living Festival, and to learn more about art and the environment.
- The **Bellofoodbox Marketing** project aimed to increase box numbers to a long-term sustainable number; promote and facilitate the relocation of Bellofoodbox to allow for growth in box numbers and to increase Bellofoodbox's list of local suppliers.
- **"Food4LYF"** youth local food project aimed to engage students from Bellingen High School in facilitated workshops to increase knowledge and skills around producing food and how to prepare produce for meals.



Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance
 promoting resilient communities through local food

FREE EVENT
Russ Grayson
Community Food Systems Consultant

Talking about
"Community Gardens and Local Food"

Where: Bellingen Memorial Hall
When: 26th March 7pm – 8.30pm
 (Refreshments from 6.30pm)

www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/localfood

This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust




**Local Food Futures Project
Part A: Final Report**
**Evaluation –
Outcomes**

The Consumer Awareness and Education Key Focus Area has supported a diverse range of community driven projects.

18 projects and 82 community based events were held throughout the duration of the project, with 3737 participants.

- 350 people attended the Local Food Film festival over the two years. The inaugural short film competition received 6 entries. 35% of event survey respondents reported that they engaged in discussions with the events speakers and requested more speakers in order to promote more discussion around local food availability and benefits.
- 9 permablitzes held at schools and community centres with a total of 164 participants, converting approximately 1000m² of land into productive garden beds. 12.6% of online community survey respondents attended a permablitz, with 13.6% noting that they have helped to maintain the permablitz garden beyond the initial event.
- The Coffs Community College ran 2 Eden at Home courses with a total of 20 participants.
- The Coffs Coast Local Food Directory has 14 businesses, groups and markets within the Coffs Coast region. The directory was only launched in mid 2012 and further promotional activities will continue.
- The Harvest Spring Dinner was attended by 80 individuals including chefs, restaurateurs, producers, wholesalers and retailers. A total of 1200 copies of the Harvest Guide have been published and distributed throughout the Coffs Coast region.
- LFA resources developed include: LFA website (119 registered members) and Facebook (669 likes) ; 2 x LFA banners created and utilised at a range of local; 1000 magnets printed and distributed promoting the LFA website; 500 flyers promoting the partnership between Local Harvest and LFA; the Coffs Coast Harvest Guide including seasonal calendar; and 2000+ flyers published and distributed summarising the Coffs Coast Local Food Framework.
- The LFA ran a total of 8 speaker events with a total of 1301 attendees. Speakers included: Robert Pekin from Food Connect; Russ Grayson, Community Gardens; Phil Dudman from Landshare Australia; Costa Georgiadis from SBS's Garden Odyssey; Kirsten Larsen from VEIL; Nicole Foss, Strong Local Economies; and Simon Cunich, Growing Change. 71% of speaker event survey respondents recorded that they had enhanced their knowledge of local food systems.
- Nutrition/ Cooking Workshops had 300+ attendees at the 2010 and 2011 events. According to the online community survey, in 2010 1.6% bought all their fruit and veg at the Grower's Market, this has increased to 6.6% in 2012. Additionally those buying all their fruit and veg in a shop/supermarket has fallen from 28% in 2010 to 4.9% in 2012. 64% of online survey respondents also reported that attending a LFA event/activity helped them to source local food.
- The Edible Streetscapes attracted 30 students to the Bellingen planting day, 150 attendees at Bellingen Edible Streetscapes launch, and 30 participants at the Coffs Harbour event.
- Local Film Nights held in Coffs Harbour and Bellingen were attended by 200 individuals.
- The Schools Scarecrow Competition a total of 38 entries from 19 different Child Care Centres, Pre-schools and Primary schools throughout the Coffs Coast region.
- The "Food4LYF project, run at the Bellingen High School Community Garden was consistently attended by 25+ high school students over the course of project. The program continues to run with funding from Bellingen High School

Key Focus Area: Showcasing

Stakeholder List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NSW Environmental Trust - Bellingen Shire Council - Bellingen Community Garden Association - Bellingen EYE - Coffs Harbour City Council - Coffs Regional Community Gardens Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service Providers – Newtrain/ Green Corps - CHESSE Employment Agency - Anglicare North Coast - Coffs Harbour Settlement Services - Coffs Harbour African Community Association
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Financial Statement	Total Project Budget: \$144,040 Total Inkind/Cash Contributions: \$313,500
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Summary of the Focus Area The Showcasing Key Focus Area was developed in the business plan to support community groups in showcasing sustainable living activities for the wider community around the production of local food, through the development of 2 showcase educational community gardens.

The Showcasing approach has resulted in two major projects in the LGA’s of Bellingen and Coffs Harbour. These projects have reflected the communities individual needs and desire to support community gardens and build capacity at a grass roots level to enable more sustainable food systems.

This focus area has additionally facilitated broad community engagement and shared visions have emerged throughout the development and enhancement of both community gardens.

A number of networking opportunities have emerged throughout the development of both showcasing projects, resulting in the development of new partnerships and the strengthening of existing partnerships. This engagement of stakeholders has additionally resulted in a strengthened network of community groups, community gardens, schools and other education providers. This network of diverse stakeholders will be fundamental beyond this project, ensuring continued community commitment to local food on the Coffs Coast.

Evaluation – Outcomes	The Showcasing Key Focus Area has supported the development of two community gardens in Bellingen and Coffs Harbour. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 457 individuals have been directly engaged through the running of 27 workshops held at the community gardens, encompassing growing and cooking local produce, soil health, composting, worm farming, water conservation, and permaculture - 5800m2 of land is now dedicated to community gardening activities - 386 individuals are engaged on the two community gardens facebook sites - 658 people have registered to receive regular enewsletter updates from both gardens - 80 school students have participated in the gardens and workshops - 295 different species of plants have been planted at the two sites - A large majority of workshop participants at the two community gardens indicated that they left the workshops with new skills (86%) and knowledge (95%) - Over \$91,800 leveraged in additional grant funding
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This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust





Partner Communication and Participation

The table below outlines the involvement of the following key project partners:

- NSW Environmental Trust
- Local Government
- State Government
- Community groups

Partner	Who	Project Participation
NSW Environmental Trust	Funder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of project reports - Local food cluster meeting organisation - Regular correspondence and support - Site visit
Local government	Coffs Harbour City Council and Bellingen Shire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day to day project management - Organisation of, and attendance at, Steering Group meetings - Development of the Coffs Coast Local Food Framework - Organisation of educational events - Liaison and support to community groups in development of gardens - All approvals and signoffs for gardens - Development of Local Food Alliance resources - Development of Local food website - Development of Council policy - Project monitoring and evaluation - 3 Milestone, 1 Progress and 1 Final Report
State government	North Coast Local Health District, North Coast TAFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attendance at Steering Group meetings - Funding of Local Food Assessment - Representation of LFA at conference - Delivery of sustainability workshops around healthy food and sustainable agriculture
Community groups	Bellingen Community Garden Association, Coffs Regional Community Gardens Association, Nambucca Valley Local Food Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend Steering Group meetings - Development of community gardens - Organisation of sustainability workshops at gardens - Organisation of Perma-blitzes - Organisation of Local Food Film Festival - Representation of LFA at conference - Project reporting and evaluation

Formal Communication

- Agenda and Minutes for Local Food Alliance Steering Group meetings
- Agenda and Minutes for Working Groups
- Working Group briefs were developed by each group to guide project delivery and as a monitoring tool

Informal Communication

- Phone calls
- Emails
- A regularly updated contact list was established at the commencement of the project with partners contact emails and telephone.

Stakeholder Engagement and Participation

The matrix below shows the key stakeholders and their interest in the project

Stakeholder	Role in project
Bellingen EYE	Facilitating youth program at Bellingen Community Garden
Bellingen Chamber of Commerce	Auspice of the Bellingen Edible Streetscapes Project
Bellofoodbox	Project delivery - Bellofoodbox marketing project
Northbank Community Garden	Project delivery - Bellingen Edible Streetscapes project
Transition Bellingen	Recipients of e-newsletter
Local schools and pre-schools	Participants (teachers, pupils and parents) in projects (PermaBlitz, Edible Streetscapes, Bellingen Community Garden), outreach by CRCGA
Coffs Growers Market	Hosted numerous Local Food Alliance events including Show us ya Dish and Garden2Kitchen cooking workshops
Our Living Coast Regional Sustainability Initiative	Cross-promotion and joint running of events/stalls
DECCW Love Food Hate Waste	Joint running of food waste workshops
Local Harvest	Partner for the Local Food Directory. Provision of media brochures
Growers and Distributors	Participation in strategy development forum, provision of information on the Local Food Directory, participation in networking events
Coffs Coast Advocate	Promotion of events, editorial comment
Coffs Community College	Project delivery – Eden at Home
NSW Farmers Association	Participation in strategy development forum, presentation of draft strategy
Department of Primary Industries	Invited to participate as a partner but not involved due to lack of resources
Northern Rivers Food Links	Sharing of information and resources
Illawarra Biodiversity and Food Project	Sharing of information and resources
City of Sydney	Sharing of Council policy
Randwick Council	Site visit to community garden, facilitation of community garden workshop
Coffs Harbour Employment Services (CHESS)	Presentation to CHESS of LFA work



**Local Food Futures Project
Part A: Final Report**

Stakeholder	Role in project
Landcare	Original member of Steering Group, workshops as part of Small Landholders Network
Coffs Regional Organic Producers Organisation	Original member of Steering Group, community composting/no-dig workshops, promotion of gardens through CROPO magazine
Permaculture consultants	Contracted for Permablitzes
Local Community	119 registered on the website: 657 likes on Facebook site 179 on e-newsletter database :2730 people attended project events and/or workshops run by the LFA: 2000 Framework brochures distributed
Regional Development Australia	Referencing of LFA in RDA Mid North Coast Regional Plan 2012-2030
North Coast Regional Botanic Gardens	Support in development of Coffs community garden
Service providers – Newtrain/ Green Corps	Community Garden hosted projects in bush regeneration and Certificate II Conservation and Land Management in partnership with these providers
CHESS Employment Agency	Use of CHESS gardens for seedling propagation, field trip to CHESS farm
Community Care Options	CRCG provider advice on CCO garden project for clients
Anglicare North Coast	Use of meeting space, involving emerging communities in community garden
Coffs Harbour Settlement Services	Involving emerging communities in community garden
Coffs Harbour African Community Association (CHACA)	Oasis project, involving emerging communities in community garden, needs assessment of Coffs Harbour African communities
Boambee East Neighbourhood Centre	Negotiated hosting permaculture training program
Coffs Harbour Men’s Shed	Custom building benches for CRCG nursery
Other community gardens	Resource sharing and emerging partnerships with Lismore, Northbank, Northey Street City Farm
Proposed gardens in Woolgoolga, Sandy Beach, Sawtell, Macksville, Taree	Advice and support for development of gardens

Stakeholder Communication tools

- Website www.coffscostlocalfood.com.au
- Facebook site Coffscoastlocalfood
- E-newsletter
- Local Food Alliance Logo
- Local Food Alliance Banners
- Project signage
- Local Food Framework brochure
- Local Food Alliance PowerPoint presentation

Project Timetable

Milestone/Activity	Status	Original Target Date	Achieved
Steering Group Terms of Reference developed	Complete	30th April 2009	✓
Strategy Working Group set-up	Complete	1st May 2009	✓
Education Working Group set-up	Complete	1st May 2009	✓
Strategic planning - mapping (SWOT) undertaken for strategy development	Complete	28th May 2009	✓
Strategic Planning –needs analysis for education projects	Complete	30th June 2009	✓
Identification of prioritised education projects	Complete	31st July 2009	✓
Detailed development of education projects	Complete	31st Aug 2009	✓
Completion of Business Plan	Complete	30th Sept 2009	✓
Local Food Strategy completed	Complete	30th November 2009	✓
Community Gardens working groups formed	Complete	30th November 2009	✓
Community Gardens possible models/structures investigated	Complete	30th November 2009	✓
Milestone Report 1	Complete	31st May 2010	✓
Land identified and agreed for gardens	Complete	30th November 2009	✓
Community Garden Coordinators employed	Complete	1st February 2010	✓
Community gardens instigated	Complete	30th March 2010	✓
Community education and awareness raising program instigated	Complete	30th March 2010	✓
Milestone Report 2 to Trust	Complete	30th September 2010	✓
Milestone Report 3 to Trust	Complete	31st December 2010	✓
Skills workshops in garden developed for rollout to community	Complete	30th July 2010	✓
Milestone Report 4	Complete	31 May 2011	✓
Project evaluation with partners	Complete	July 2012	✓
Project Completion, Final Report	Complete	31 August 2012	✓

Project Monitoring

Project Management monitoring was undertaken throughout the duration of the project. The project manager and the lead member of each working group reported progress to the Local Food Alliance Steering Group through standing agenda items. These included overall project budget and timelines and working group reports. Working group leaders reported on budget, timeline and progress in implementation of projects and outcomes achieved.

Groups that were contracted to undertake projects were required to sign MOUs with Coffs Harbour City Council outlining the budget, reporting requirements and outcomes to be achieved. Each of the groups were required to submit progress reports that aligned with the Milestone Reports to the Environmental Trust, including regular financial updates and monitoring of outcomes achieved to date.



Project Evaluation

The following are the high level outcomes which were anticipated from the Local Food Futures project.

- Increased and active partnerships built around local food
- Improved community knowledge and awareness of the value and availability of local food
- Increased community skills around local food
- Increased backyard biodiversity
- Integration of local food production in Council policies and planning

Success towards achievement of these outcomes has been measured and evaluated using the Outcomes Hierarchy which was developed as part of the original Business Plan. The detailed evaluation is a separate stand alone report, located in Part B. The evaluation shows that all of these outcomes have been achieved. The project also met all its objectives and exceeded its targets by significant amounts (refer Schedule C below).

Section 5

Increased community knowledge, participation and action taken to address environmental issues

5. Will your project include increased community knowledge, participation and action? Yes/No

Grant Reference No 2008/USM/0008

If No, go to Section 6

Question number	Question	Unit of measurement	Baseline Measure	Year 1 Projected	Yr 1 Achieved	Yr 2 predicted	Year 2 Achieved	Yr 3 Projected	Year 3 Achieved	Project Total projected	Project Total Achieved
42	How many individuals will your project reach ?	Number of individuals	0	60		215	40000	340	45667	615	85667
43	How many will be new participants?	Number of individuals	0	60	175	175	1500	250	1687	485	3187
44	How many people in total will be engaged through the year?	Number of individuals	0	60	175	215	1500	340	1687	615	3187
45	Of these people, please indicate:										
46	How many Trust funded staff will be employed as part of the project?	Number of individuals	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2
		Number of hours contributed	0	1344	0	1344	2016	1344	2016	4032	4032
47	How many non-Trust funded paid are part of the project team?	Number of individuals	0	4	6	3	6	3	3		
		Combined hours contributed	0	500	740	400	1000	300	1400	1200	3140
48	How many will be volunteers?	Number of individuals	4	4	3	4	18	4	18	4	
		Combined hours contributed	0	600	300	500	5325	5325		1500	10950
49	How many students will be involved ?	Number of individuals		0	0	0	300	0	424	0	724
50	Please distinguish between primary, secondary and tertiary.	describe majority	primary and secondary								
51		Combined hours contributed				350		500		850	
52	How many people will be sharing, giving or receiving, traditional Aboriginal knowledge and <i>Caring For Country</i> ?	Number of people									
53	How many individuals in your target audience will your communication and dissemination strategy reach?	Number of people									
54	If training is an aspect of your project:										
55	How many people will be trained as a result of your program?	Number of individuals									
56	How many training sessions will you run?	Number of sessions									
57	for how many training sessions will a Registered Training Organisation be engaged in the delivery of your training?	Number of sessions that a Registered Training Organisation will be engaged									
Multiple Choice on Seven Priority Themes .											
58	Will your project be addressing the priorities themes identified in <i>Learning for sustainability:NSW Environmental Education Plan 2007-10?</i>	Choose one or as many as apply from the drop down list attached to each of these cells.		Sustainable production and consumption		Sustainable production and consumption		Sustainable production and consumption			
59	No of partnerships established to incorporate Aboriginal land management techniques?	Number of partnerships									
60	Will you be establishing any partnerships that will cont that you hope to maintain beyond the life of the project?	Number of partnerships	0	7	5	8	5	8	5	8	5
61	Increased participation in the local food economy	Change in local growers markets (location, number, frequency, no. of stalls)	3 (2 x Colls, 1 x Bello) - additional data to be added during detailed project planning	5% increase in those shopping at growers market (from those surveyed)	89% changed where theypurchase to favour local food						
62	Uptake of local food models eg share gardening, box systems, Community Supported Agriculture	No. of models	Exisitng models to be mapped as part of Strategy development								

Embedding Sustainability

Local food as a catalyst for a conversation about sustainability

To many, sustainability is a difficult concept and one that is difficult to define. This project has demonstrated that using the issue of local food is a fantastic theme around which to explore and discuss real issues of sustainability. These include consumerism, peak oil, climate change, community resilience to sudden change, personal choices, chemical usage, biodiversity, industrialised agriculture and the centralised power of large supermarkets and agricultural/chemical corporations versus small scale community driven diversified agriculture.

Offering best practice examples of sustainability and spaces for conversations about sustainability – building communities of change

Conversations around sustainability are now happening and many have been triggered by the project offering activities and events with the space for people to network and discuss these issues in greater depth.

On a local scale, the community gardens offer an ongoing example of what sustainable food production can look like, along with other examples of how to live more sustainably (water conservation, waste reuse, renewable energy, bush regeneration and preservation of biodiversity). At the heart of these gardens is also the idea of social sustainability – building a community of change, a place where people can come together to learn new skills and to build a better future together where people share resources. A sustainable future will need many more spaces like these where people can come together, to reunite as a community, moving us away from the individualised and decentralised, isolating approaches of the last 30 years.

In addition to the gardens, the project has helped build significant networks and partnerships throughout the community around local food and sustainability that will be ongoing. The value of the relationships that have been built through undertaking these projects together is difficult to quantify or measure but is critical to any movement towards sustainability. Indeed it is at the very heart of it.

Integration of sustainability in government policy

Some progress has been made towards integration of local food outcomes into council's policies, plans and strategies and hence decision-making processes. The role and value of local food has certainly been elevated but there is still significant work to be done in this area if, as a region, we wish to ensure that we are best positioned to react to future shocks, such as climate change and peak oil. The threat of continued urban and sub-urban expansion on our limited agricultural land remains. Over time however, with growing community awareness and increasing social capital, the momentum and pressure will build to protect our agricultural landscapes and hence the sustainability of our food supply.

Delays or Difficulties Encountered

There were a limited number of delays and/or difficulties encountered over the three year duration of the project. These are discussed below:

Scope and Capacity for Delivery

The scope of the project, as detailed in the Business Plan, was in hindsight, very ambitious for a \$250,000 project. There was no inclusion in the budget for salaries, other than nominal payments to cover some volunteer costs. This meant that the work associated with the project was undertaken by community volunteers and in-kind contributions from Council staff. The amount of work involved in delivering the various aspects of the project was underestimated which left people feeling stressed and over committed at times.

The Project Manager had to juggle many projects simultaneously limiting their time allocation to the project. In addition there was a degree of frustration felt by the Project Manager with a lack of understanding within Council about it's important ongoing role around local food and community resilience. Specifically, the importance of council's role in the development and running of the community garden and the significant regional role that the community garden will play was not well understood. Generating understanding that local food approaches have a critical role to play in a sustainable future and that Council is a key facilitator of this remained a challenge to this project.

Community Gardens

The main challenge of the project was the identification of suitable sites for the two community gardens and the steps necessary to get approvals for these gardens. This caused a delay of 12 months to this part of the project.

Neither of the two Councils involved in the project had been involved in community gardens before. This meant that it was very much a “path untrodden” in terms of policy development. The process was at times bureaucratic but the lessons learnt through this process have now been incorporated into a draft Council Community Garden Policy and Guidelines.

There was also a significant amount of time required for education of staff, Councillors and the community about the value and role of community gardens and their acceptance as a valid use of public open space, beyond the traditional use as sports fields. To this end the Local Food Alliance funded Russ Grayson to come up from Sydney for several days to give talks and presentations to both the community and Councillors about community gardens in public open space and their role in generating sustainable communities.

Suitable sites were finally identified and both gardens are now up and running.

Evaluation/reporting requirements

One of the main objectives within the project was to involve and actively work with community groups to support and build their capacity to implement on-ground activities. Whilst this has been extremely successful in creating a wide regional network of those passionate about local food and working together, it has not been without its challenges. Many groups do not understand or see the value in evaluation of projects but are focussed, understandably, on project delivery. It has been challenging to emphasise the importance of consistently collecting quality, quantitative and qualitative data and some of the data collection was not as robust as it could have been.

Modifications

Extension to grant

An extension of 6 months was granted by the Environmental Trust due to unexpected time taken to get all the approvals necessary for the Community Gardens to progress.

Business Plan

There were only minor changes from the Business Plan to the project activities delivered and associated minor budgetary changes.

Lessons Learnt

1. Ensure that groups working in partnership on projects are very clear about their commitments around expected outcomes and reporting when drawing up project agreements. Allow adequate time to support and assist them.
2. Ensure you have allowed adequate resourcing for staff to manage projects. When applying for grant funding include a salary component for staff time.
3. Multi-stakeholder approaches, such as that employed in the design and governance structures of this project, can be extremely effective in real and ongoing change for sustainability in communities. It facilitates grass roots community groups with their existing strong local networks, in linking with, and being supported by, government and other agencies who have the strategic “big picture” and can leverage resources.
4. If at first you don’t succeed, try and then try again and keep trying. Find those who can help and support you. Creating change is always challenging and takes time and persistence. Celebrate your successes and stay motivated.



This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust





Local Food Futures Project
Part A: Final Report

Appendix A

Visual Documentation

BELLINGEN COMMUNITY GARDENS ASSOCIATION



Bellingen Community Gardens Association
Eating for health and wellbeing:
EAST MEETS WEST



The Bellingen High School Community Gardens is sponsoring a series of workshops called "The Food for Thought, The Body and Spirit of Nourishment from East to West."

These interactive workshops explore what we eat and how it affects our wellbeing, as well as ways we can improve our health without the use of radical diets. The facilitators are Alasdair Reed, a Chinese herbal medicine practitioner and ex-chef, and Tony Falloon, a naturopath, associate of the Australasian College of Nutritional and Environmental medicine and compounding pharmacist.

Brought together by their connections to the community garden, they discovered a large amount of cross-pollination in the ideas of Western nutritional medicine and Traditional Chinese medicine.

The workshops are based on Alasdair's knowledge of Chinese medicine and Tony's in-depth knowledge of the effect of the typical Western diet on the processes of the body. Together they are showing workshop participants that you can get the best out of subtleties of the Chinese system, while eating a whole-food diet that is easy to follow, supports wellbeing and does not involve the use of fads or extreme diets. Our aim is that participants in these workshops will come away with knowledge that they can apply to their diets, allowing them to identify which sort of food to eat to maintain both their own health, and, in keeping with the philosophy of community gardens, care for the environment and benefit for local food growers.

Tony says "I have been amazed in my discussions with Alasdair at how the two systems using different methods end up with such similar results - science and art, ying and yang, etc. There are so many differing viewpoints when it comes to how we are nourishing ourselves and really the question comes down to the quality rather than the quantity."

"Let food be your medicine and medicine be your food, is a quote every naturopath is bought up on", says Tony. "How many people in this drug-driven society realise that most of these drugs come from plants in the first place? What Alasdair and I are attempting in these workshops is to give our respective slants on this age-old wisdom, and if successful might in some way help mainstream medicine in its quest to not only relieve the symptoms but to support a cure."

Some of the topics that we are covering include identifying food quality from a holistic view point, helping your body make the best of what you eat by eating by the seasons, cooking methods, menu planning, and a practical cooking session applying all the skills covered.

This is a course that is currently running, it will be offered again in October/November. Please contact Alasdair on 0403-869-932 for more details and to book a place. These workshops are being supported by the Local Food Futures Project, an initiative of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance, and supported by the NSW Environmental Trust. The Food Futures Project is also supporting the establishment of a community garden at Coffs Harbour, in Combine Street.

For more information about this garden, please call the Coordinator, Steve McGrane, on 0407 740 565. For more information about activities at the Bellingen High School Community Garden and related activities like Permaculture, please call the Coordinator, Charlie Brennan, on 0403296317.

Film feast to go on screen

THE Local Food Film Festival 2011 is screening this Sunday at the Bellingen Memorial Hall from 2pm.

A community-run festival in its second year, the event aims to promote the concept of live local, eat local.

Two feature films – Vanishing of the Bees and Economics of Happiness – will screen as well as a number of short films, including the winning entry in the short film competition.

The winning filmmaker will be at the Memorial Hall to speak about the film and its making. There will also be a delicious afternoon tea available.

Doors open at 1.30 pm. Tickets are \$15 adult, \$10 youth and concession.

Vanishing of the Bees follows two commercial beekeepers as they strive to fulfil pollination contracts across the U.S.

Economics of Happiness shows that going local is a powerful strategy to repair our fractured world – our ecosystems, our societies and ourselves.

For more details about the festival, visit www.localfoodfilmfestival.com.au.

Community garden grows

27th August 2009

THE Coffs Harbour Community Garden Association (CHEGA) is being formed as the first step towards a community garden in Coffs Harbour.

This new group, working with a grant from the NSW Environmental Trust, will aim to be the driving force behind the establishment of a community garden in partnership with CHCC.

The first meeting will be held on Saturday from 3pm to 5pm at the Coffs Community Village.

Deposit Spurring Coffs Coast today 3:30 in Depot

This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust



Local Food Futures Project
Part A: Final Report

seared swordfish

with a citrus and herb dressing, charred baby potatoes, and a house made bread

Ingredients

<p>Swordfish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 x 150 g swordfish fillets 1 x egg plain flour 1 tbsp ground white pepper 2 tbsp sea salt 100 ml olive oil Chardeumay smoked tomatoes 1 dist large vine spined cherry tomatoes 2 cups of apple wood or oak (cheese saw can find these at any hardware, nursery or BBQ store) 200 ml chardonnay 	<p>Potatoes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 - 4 big boiler potatoes (unribbed) 3 cups of garlic (roasted) 3 sprigs of thyme (dried or fresh) Olive oil 2 bunch of baby spring onions 1 tbsp white butter 1 x shallots (diced) 1 x clove garlic (minced) 	<p>Sauce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 x bunch watercress (washed) 1 x lemon zested 300 ml chardonnay 300 ml of double chicken or fish stock 300 ml pouring cream salt & pepper <p>Dressing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garlic (fine flavoured) Fennel (finely sliced) or young fennel seeds Thyme (dried) tomato blossoms
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Method

Chardeumay Smoked Tomatoes

Soak wood chips in chardonnay 24 hrs before use.

In a wok place a hand-made metal of aluminium foil lined with soaked wood chips. Place water (at least 1cm) and another wok on top to turn a lid and trap the smoke. Place on a low heat to start smoking process.

Score the skin of the tomatoes with a cross and place them in boiling salted water for 20 seconds.

Refresh them in ice water until skin peels back, remove skin, trying to keep you attached. Place them on a piece of baking paper on the work rack, place hot oil and turn up to high. Smoke temperature on high for 20-30 min, then place aside until plating.

Smoked Potatoes

Scrub potatoes to remove dirt and any blemish water. Slice into even sized coin shaped pieces. Place them in a large baking tray evenly spaced out.

Add the minced garlic and the thyme, and then cover with oil.

Cover tray with foil and place in 80°C oven for 1 hour or until soft. Once roasted heat potatoes in oil until needed.

Sauce

In a saucepan, place diced shallots, garlic, lemon thyme and tomato zest and chardonnay. Reduce on a high heat until nearly dissolved.

Add double chicken or fish stock and reduce to 500 ml.

Flouring

Place swordfish on the plate. Season potatoes and keep the oil for later use. Place potatoes beside fish, add smoked tomatoes on top of potatoes.

Preheat chardeumay spring onions in a little amount, leaving on the tomatoes.

With sick blades, heat up flaps, allow 10 seconds to rest before scooping them. Place where needed. Season your tomatoes, flowers and fine herbs for presentation.

All ingredients can be sourced from local suppliers.



Food and Movies.

Two of life's most enjoyable things – food and movies – are coming together to bring you the 2011 Local Food Film Festival. This is a community run festival based on the Mid North Coast showcasing films that promote the concept of 'live local, eat local'.

The Mid North Coast is a quietly achieving food bowl and there are many reasons to support our local farmers and producers. Sourcing local food at farmers markets or farm gates not only supports a farming family in our region, but helps build communities and local economies. It also reduces the associated transport pollution with sourcing produce out of season or from beyond our bioregion.

The 2011 Local Food Film Festival will be held at Bellingen Memorial Hall on 23rd October, Bowraville Theatre on 29th October and Coffs Harbour Bunker Cartoon Gallery on 30th October. Screening are two feature films, 'Vanishing of the Bees' and 'Economics of Happiness', as well as a number of short films, including the winning entry in the short film competition and a showcase of locally grown food and beverages.

This year the festival will also be raising awareness and funds for the East Africa Famine Appeal with 10% of all ticket sales going towards the appeal.

For more details please visit:

www.localfoodfilmfestival.com.au

LOCAL FOOD FILM FESTIVAL
live local, eat local

Bellingen 23rd Oct | Bowraville 29th Oct | Coffs Harbour 30th Oct

www.localfoodfilmfestival.com.au

coffs coast
focus

INTERVIEWS JUSTINE MAUNSELL – THE COFFS HARBOUR REGIONAL COMMUNITY GARDEN



"The Coffs Harbour Regional Community Garden is truly one of the hidden gems of the Coffs Coast."

Tucked away in the Combine Street Reserve, the Community Garden is fast becoming a place where locals meet on a Sunday to grow fresh food, learn, relax and make new friends. Even during the cooler winter months, the garden is flourishing with a mouth-watering array of fresh vegetables. Broad beans, snowpeas, celery, silver beet and broccoli will soon be ready for the community gardeners to harvest!

The Coffs Community Garden is a not-for-profit organisation managed by a dedicated group of community gardeners. It is driven by a simple ethic: care of the earth, care of our people and sharing our surplus. It is one of the key projects of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance, which aims to promote a strong local food economy so that all residents of the Coffs Coast have equitable access to affordable, fresh, healthy food into the future.

Back in 2009, a small group of motivated locals got together and planted the idea of a community garden. The idea grew and, after many long hours of work and planning, a proposal to establish the Coffs Community Garden was submitted to Coffs Harbour City Council. The proposal was approved with-

Time to get a wriggle on

The Coffs Coast's high, primary and preschool students are invited to let their imaginations run wild during this year's International Composting Awareness Week.

Design and create the best worm farm for the awareness week and your school will have the opportunity to win prizes, including a worm farm or compost bin and vouchers from Promised Land Worm Products.

Supported by the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance, Coffs Harbour City Council, Coffs Regional Community Garden and Promised Land Worm Products, the worm farm competition will give schools an opportunity to build their own worm farm from scratch using recycled and recyclable materials such as old buckets and pots, boxes and plastic pipe, and pretty much



WINNING WRIGGLERS: Which school will win a worm farm?

anything you can find that is recycled.

By taking part in the competition, it is hoped students will learn more about art, the envi-

ronment – and worms.

All entries built with recycled materials will be displayed and judged at the Coffs Regional Community Garden on May 12.

Pizza, planting and produce

THE Coffs Regional Community Garden has been a hive of activity over recent months.

In particular, the new wood fired pizza oven has proved a popular addition. A great example of a successful community project, the pizza oven was made with the collective efforts of workshop participants.

The oven was put to good use at the recent Father's Day pizza and planting event. Local dads and families enjoyed a delicious feast of pizza topped with fresh produce from the garden.

As part of the day, more than 20 citrus trees were planted along Combine St at the front of the reserve.

A project supported by Coffs Harbour City Council, the Coffs community can look forward to a supply of fresh fruit once these trees are established.

Coffs Harbour City Council generously donated the plants, materials and use of a water truck on the day. A number of Council staff also came along to help plant the citrus trees.

In the communal garden



MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK: Planting citrus trees on Father's Day

areas, there is an abundance of fresh produce which needs to be harvested to make space for spring planting.

Community Garden members are encouraged pop in and pick their fair share of vegetables to take home to the kitchen table.

The annual general meeting will be held today from 11am to noon. Everyone is welcome whether you are a member, supporter or just want to find out what a community garden is all about. The AGM gives members the opportunity to elect the committee for the coming year. This will be followed by a pizza lunch to celebrate the achievements of the past year.



FIRED UP: Garden Co-ordinator David Mattinson cooks pizza for lunch.

More info: visit coffscommunitygardens.org.au, email contact@coffscommunitygardens.org.au or phone 0424 989 979.

The COFFS COAST Advocate



www.coffscostadvocate.com.au

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Wednesday, August 10, 2011 \$1.10

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WIN TICKETS TO COLD CHISEL

SEE INSIDE THE GUIDE FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF 5 DOUBLE PASSES TO THE COFFS HARBOUR 'LIGHT THE NITRO' SHOW

It's go to grow for community plot

By GEMIMA HARVEY

MOMENTUM is building and in the coming months Coffs Harbour will see its first ever community garden take form.

The project was officially launched yesterday at the Combine St Reserve and work on the initial stages will include a central mandala and waterway.

Coffs Regional Community Gardens chairperson Adam Curllis said while the idea was to create a productive food garden, the site would be a meeting place where the community could attend workshops and work together on different sections.

"Support from community members, service providers and small businesses have been fantastic and we appreciate their generous donations, materials and advice," Mr Curllis said. "The one-and-a-half hectare site will be home to various gardens, with a

stream leading to the creek, walkways and a viewing platform."

Within the community garden will be a public space, nursery, natives and bush food area, organic recycling and kids' area. Residents can rent a plot for around \$60 a year.

Along with garden members, the site is being worked on by 10 volunteers and team leader Dom White with the National Green Jobs Corps.

Ms White said in addition to learning new skills, the community garden is an opportunity for participants to learn about the importance of growing food naturally and locally.

"Edible landscapes increasingly are being integrated into Australian public space and urban design and this project offers cutting edge experience for young people potentially entering the green skills workforce."

Work on the garden is expected to be complete by June, 2012.



SHOVEL READY: Josh Hallgath, Brodie Dalzell and Wayne Marnoch show their enthusiasm for the community garden at the Combine St Reserve. PHOTO: TREVOR VEALE

This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust





localnews - means the world to us

RURAL FOCUS



Grant helps get food from paddock to plate

EFFORTS to improve the supply of food from Coffs Coast growers to consumers have received a boost with the receipt of a \$250,000 grant to the Local Food Futures Alliance.

The Alliance, which involves organisations in Coffs Harbour and Bellingen local government areas, is working to provide a supportive paddock-to-plate framework for a sustainable local food system.

Nana Glen resident Larry Langman, who represents Landcare on the Alliance, paid tribute to the work of Coffs Harbour City Council staff member Lynn Delgado in securing two major NSW Environmental Trust grants for the region.

The Alliance wants to establish two community gardens, one in Coffs Harbour and another in Bellingen.

This would allow even people living in flats or townhouses to grow their own vegetables and some fruits.

A public relations spokeswoman

for Coffs Harbour City Council said no location for a community garden for the city had been decided and this would probably depend on the group of people who expressed interest in becoming involved with the garden.

She said six places for the garden had been mentioned, one of which was the Coffs Harbour Showground, which is public land managed by the Department of Lands.

She said the grant was not able to be used for the purchase of land.

She said the area required "depends on what people come up with".

Community gardens could also help to expand the supply of produce to Coffs Coast growers' markets.

People interested in becoming involved with a community garden or who have land that might be suitable for such a garden can contact Lynn Delgado at Coffs Harbour City Council on 6648 4646

You can drink as well as eat locally grown . . . Jo Sherwood in Nana Glen's Two Tails vineyard, where grapes are swelling on the vines for the 2009 vintage. PHOTO: BRUCE THOMAS

Coffs Public gets visit from guru



COFFS Harbour Public School is developing its own unique sustainable vegetable garden. Phil Dudman – gardening guru, broadcaster and author of the book series *The Garden Guru* – visited our school to guide our students on planting our first plants, how to take care of our gardens, the importance of recycling and establishing our worm farm.

Our students really enjoyed Mr Dudman's visit and our garden is now up and running.

Coffs Harbour Public's keen gardeners show off their newly planted vegetables with Garden Guru Phil Dudman.

Permablitz at Bellingen Public



Saturday 16th October saw 33 eager volunteers transform the front yard of Bellingen Public School into a thriving veggie patch full of sunflowers, climbing beans, chilli plants, leek, chives, passion-fruit and gourd vines, cucumbers, zucchini, nasturtiums, lettuce, tomatoes, oregano, sage, chervil, sorrel, turmeric, lemongrass and dill. Permaculture design specialist, Charlie Brennan (Sacred Places) and 25 supportive parents, children and teachers spent the day digging, weeding, laying paper and cardboard, mulching, shovelling sawdust and manure and planting hundreds of healthy seedlings amongst the citrus grove. The sun was out, the day ran smoothly and everyone enjoyed a delicious salad sup-

plied by the existing veggie patch! There was tremendous community spirit and 'Permablitz' enthusiasts from the wider community also assisted on the day. Timber framed beds have extended the food growing capacity of Bellingen Public School's already prosperous garden and we look forward to sharing the produce with our school and the wider Bellingen community.

It is Bellingen Public School's long term goal to continue to develop these food producing areas and encourage students to be passionate about cultivating nutrient rich, fresh, organic fruit and vegetables and the ecosystem which supports this. *Elizabeth Scott and Rowena McGregor (Organisers)*



HOT COMPETITION: Chef Stefano Maxima (left) and home cooks Mel Hardy and Keith Street slug it out over the pork and peas. PHOTO: PETER WILK

Chef Stefano shows how to dish it out

CHEF Stefano Maxima justified his outright dominance in previous betting for yesterday's Coffs Harbour Show 'Ya Ya Dish' competition.

Stefano's Staffed Lajapat: Squid with Prawns, which incorporated mushrooms and eggplant, served on a salsa and was decorated with tiny edible flowers, was voted the top dish.

Last week the Fusion Restaurants chef's recipe was the second-

best entry for the Mid North Coast team at Sydney's Cray Festival 100 Mile Challenge.

Chef behind him in second place was Emerald Beach cook Mel Hardy with her Thai style Soukhang Herf and Turf dish which combined rib eye fillet with garlic and peppercorn flavoured prawns and squid served with cucumber and fresh herbs.

The judges praised the dish for its balance and freshness

In third place was Keith Street, whose Soosoni! Fish Greek Style earned praise for its perfectly cooked fish and the savoury sior-dalia (Greek paria and potato sauce).

The judges were Ian Hooperman from 2H, Scott Newman from Merriemans Electrical Mega Store and Angela Van den Bosch from the Fox Porcupine Pool.

Special guest, Australian landscape architect and television

personality Costa Georgiadis, whose plane was damaged, still arrived in time for the conclusion of the competition. The host of the SBS TV series Costa's Garden Odyssey is in town this week to host the Strathgunga Living Festival. Meanwhile the microphone was competently manned by David Lashoven, with the only upward trend being an attempt by an overzealous soundie to steal a gram for his lunch.

Calling all cooks with a local specialty

RECKON you've got what it takes to match our local masterchef Dustin Bowle-Ford?

Dustin (right), from Emerald Beach's Saltwater Restaurant, recently won the region's signature dish competition and now he's ready to take on all-comers.

The Coffs Coast Food Alliance is offering locals the chance to show off their cooking skills in a new competition that aims to promote local food and find the region's best cook.

'Show us ya' dish' entrants will be given the opportunity to have a cook-off against Dustin at the

Coffs Coast Growers Market on Thursday, November 11.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for local home cooks to show off their talent in the kitchen," said Growers Market Coordinator Jan Rooney.

"There is only one rule - all the ingredients must be sourced from local Coffs Coast producers."

Entries close on November 4. Budding chefs should head to the Food Alliance website at

www.coffscostlocalfood.com.au and upload a photo of their dish.

The winners will receive Scanpan saucepans.





Local Food Futures Project
Part A: Final Report

Appendix B

Coffs Regional Community Gardens Final Report



**Local Food Futures Project
NSW ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST
Grant Number 2008/USM/0008
Final Report, 15th August 2012**

Summary

Coffs Regional Community Gardens (CRCG) has transformed 1.25 acres of vacant parkland into an active and productive community garden with a membership of 76 individuals and families. Many of the members have joined the garden after involvement one of the 17 community garden workshop held thus far. The facilitated workshops are now held fortnightly and include series of workshops providing an experiential hands-on learning environment delivering skills sets which can be transferred to the home garden environment. The Community Garden includes a large nursery; communal garden areas; individual allotments; wetlands; children's play area; pizza oven; water harvesting; a town water supply; waste recycling and a subtropical and partially completed temperate food forest. Plantings of mulch crops and green manures will provide a sustainable source of mulch over the coming years, reducing the amount of external inputs required at the garden. Purchased and donated tools stored in the small garden shed are freely available to members.

The energetic Management Committee have extended the influence of the community garden into a large number of food based community projects at schools, childcare centres and public locations as well as through a guest speaker program that has encouraged and inspired other community groups to develop further community gardens in the area. The CRCG has a presence at all major community festivals and events through stalls, public speaking and demonstrations.

The CRCG has developed strong links with a variety of stakeholders including Coffs Harbour City Council, local businesses, service and education providers and like-minded community groups. These links have led to new projects such as the first Edible Streetscape Project in Coffs Harbour (CHCC), Training programs for unemployed youth (Newtrain) and a proposed Permaculture and employment skills program for emerging communities (East Boambee Community Centre -pending funding approval). Local businesses have responded generously and enthusiastically with material support and publicity for the project.

Activities undertaken during grant period

Waterway Stormwater channel running through the site transformed into wetland of species endemic to the neighbouring Coffs Creek into which it flows.

Mandala garden Large mandala garden built using recycled products donated by Coffs Harbour City Council.

Nursery Shadehouse and hothouse established on site. Benching completed by Coffs Harbour Men's Shed to be installed during September. Production of seedlings for members commenced.

Water capture Swales created to capture and store rain and stormwater from neighbouring properties with excess water directed into wetland. Two 1,000L small water tanks for water capture from roof of shed. Two larger water tanks purchased. The 10,000L has been installed, capturing rainwater from a neighbouring property roof and acting as a header tank to provide water pressure to the garden boundaries. The second tank will capture water from the completed meeting space. A solar powered pump can transport water between the tanks as necessary.

Meeting space Architectural drawings and site survey complete. Construction to commence pending Building Approval from CHCC. Alternative funding for materials secured. Project to be completed by December 2012.

Allotments Individual plots where individuals and groups can grow their own produce. Allotments built by members during workshops. Sixteen raised garden beds established and a further 20 allocated beds to be created during two September workshops. Larger plots to be established outside of garden perimeter.

Education programs: workshops, guest speaking, events (Harbourside markets)

Food forests – Subtropical food forest established among swales, temperate food forest developing outside of fenced garden: stone fruits planted and other purchased fruit trees stored in shadehouse for Spring planting, purchased trees for tropical food forest to be planted in warmer months. Small number of bush tucker plants established along the waterway.

Sustainable Mulch Supply Sugarcane mulch plants planted in disused waterlogged area. Pigeon pea seedlings propagated for future planting. Ready supply of comfrey established. Green manures form part of food forest and throughout communal gardens.

Waste Recycling Free standing compost heaps created regularly from purchased and donated materials to supply allotments and communal gardens.

Worm Farms Two thriving worm farms established to supply castings and liquid fertiliser for site.

Pizza Oven Recently built to provide hungry members lunch during working bees and events

Fenceline garden One hundred metres of vertical growing space with a three metres of garden beds full of a variety of vegetable free to members and the wider community

Unexpected Outcomes

The success of the first waterway project, made possible by the Environmental Trust Grant has enable the CRCG to secure funding to rehabilitate the remaining section of the waterway project through a Be Natural Landcare grant.

The CRCG has been supporting stakeholders in the proposed Woolgoolga Community Garden during the planning stage and negotiations with Council. The CRCG is currently in negotiations about the auspicing the second community garden.

CRCG has partnered with the Coffs Harbour City Council to establish the first Edible Streetscape in our city. The citrus trees will be established on Sunday 2nd September in a Fathers' Day workshop along the border of the Combine Street Reserve adjacent to the Community Garden. Materials supplied by the Council with ongoing maintenance provided by Community Garden members. This trial programme has tremendous potential for increasing the amount of fresh food available on public land in Coffs Harbour.

Partner/ Stakeholder Communication

The CRCG has established a number of communication channels with members, partners and stakeholders about activities at the Community Garden. Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback about the project and actively encouraged to participate in decision-making processes.

- **Annual General Meeting**- open to the public, however only members can vote at election. Local residents receive information via letterbox drop. Flyers posted on public noticeboards and sent via email to all members and supporters. At our last AGM we had 15 people nominate for committee positions. Our constitution allows for 7 office bearers so we developed a working party to accommodate the unsuccessful candidates into the decision making process.
- **Committee meetings** – Open to all members of the Association and stakeholders. Regular attendance by committee members and working group members. Periodic attendance by CHCC, like-minded community groups and other stakeholders. Minutes supplied to all who attend.
- **Website** www.coffscommunitygardens.org.au
- **Facebook** <http://www.facebook.com/coffsregionalcommunitygardens> 269 likes. Updated twice weekly.
- **Newsletter** Distributed to 473 members and supporters each month.
- **Emails to members** Weekly updates on workshops and activities
- **Flyers** Workshops and events each month. Special event flyers as necessary. Posted to all public noticeboards and supporting businesses. Included in newsletter. Emailed to key supporters for distribution through wider networks.
- **Guest speaking** Sustainability Festival, Coffs Organic Producers Organisation, CHCC library presentation, Love Food Hate Waste event, Healthy Kids' event, Northern Beaches Neighbour Aide, Rotary Club, Tyalla Primary School, Botanica Festival, local garden clubs.
- **Newspaper articles** 14 articles published in the Coffs Coast Advocate and Independent newspapers and Coffs Coast Focus magazine during the term of the grant; regular column by two current committee members in the Coffs Coast Alternative (2011), Coffs Coast Advocate newspapers (2012) and Coffs Regional Organic Producers Association newsletter.
- **Radio** 7 Radio interviews on ABC local radio

Stakeholder Engagement/ Participation

Updated information about the stakeholder groups (eg schools, community members, business, sports groups etc) engaged in the project, and an assessment of their level of participation in project activities.

CRCG Association members

Seventy six individuals and families have so far become financial members of the Coffs Regional Community Gardens Association. This takes the number of people who are actively involved in the Community Gardens to approximately 108 but this number is expected to grow considerably over the coming year. The majority of these memberships resulted after participation in one of our workshops with the remaining members joining via CRCG stalls at local events.

Twenty three allotments have been leased which exceeds the current number of available beds. A further twenty five groups have been placed on the waiting list. Allotments are built by lease holders and other members in workshops which cover no-dig gardening techniques. We shall hold two further workshops in September to develop the remaining beds in time for spring planting.

Working bees held each Sunday are regularly attended by 25 plus members. Small groups of members interested in a particular aspect of the garden have formed working groups or 'pods' which work autonomously while reporting to the Management Committee and Garden Coordinator. This is a growing part of garden activities.

Community Members

As the Community garden reputation for high quality workshops grows we are receiving more interest from community members to visit the gardens and become active members. We have four tours booked in September including a preschool, primary school, church group and the community garden group from Woolgoolga.

Neighbouring Residents

There were several consultation meetings with local residents including those on the 25 adjoining properties during the planning stages of the garden. After initial resistance to the idea of transforming the park into a Community Garden we now have had overwhelming support from our neighbours. We have had donations of plants and gardening materials including soil, and negotiated water capture from the roof of a neighbour's home. One neighbour was also part of the working party until she needed to spend more time with her newborn child. Committee members have regular contact with the local residents to minimise the impact of garden activities to their lives eg the planning behind stage two of the waterway project has been developed in consultation with neighbours to ensure that the types and placement of vegetation does not prevent access to the park. Neighbours are free to access the Community Garden at any time. A minority of immediate neighbours have been involved in our workshops to date.

Business

We have had generous contributions of materials and expertise from local businesses.

- [Wild Harvest Integrated Landscape Design](#) created our original concept plan and videos <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hlsqDpGYyto> for free – an estimated 170 hours in labour and expertise. These materials proved very successful in promoting the garden concept.
- [Organic Marketing](#) Developed our website at no cost
- Recently we partnered with local businesswoman Kim Townsend to host a 'Garden Party' – a garden themed market day at the local Harbourside Markets.
- We negotiated a below cost price for the materials for our perimeter fence from Bluescope Steel
- Bob the Builder erected the fence at a negotiated price for Community Groups
- Donations of compost from Biomass Solutions Waste Recycling Facility. Also site tours of the facility for members.
- A small local plumbing business provided two 1,000L water tanks installed for free
- [Advanced Plumbing and Irrigation supplies](#) provided advice about networking our water supply
- Coffs Harbour Produce have provided a community discount on all gardening tools and materials we purchase from them
- Trecycling Tree Services continue to donate mulch materials to the Community Garden
- Xerox has donated \$2,000 of printing costs to the CRCG
- Stickerman Signs has become a sponsor of the Community Garden and provided low cost signage and banners

Schools

Due to site access issue our involvement with local schools at the community garden has been relatively recent. We have however been involved with outreach programs and our committee members have commenced programs at school grounds as a result of their involvement with the CRCG.

- Committee member Juliet Thomas initiated a garden project at Sawtell Public School which has since received independent funding. She remains involved as the Garden Coordinator. Another committee member has since conducted a Permablitz at the site.
- Committee member and Garden Coordinator Matthew Downie has been working with St Augustine's Primary School to establish a garden program. He also facilitated a Permablitz at the school
- Committee member Steve McGrane provided advice on establishing a native bee program at Macksville Public School
- Committee member Adam Curlis was guest speaker at Tyalla Public School's Green Day event and has been working with the school to establish a nursery of food plants for establishing communities
- Coffs Harbour High School student Sustainability group are liaising with the Community Garden
- Committee members Adam Curlis and Steve McGrane provided advice to the Sandy Beach school garden project
- The CRCG has established an MOU with Coffs Harbour City Council to jointly develop school gardening programs and visits to the Community garden.
- Children from local family day care businesses are supplied with seedlings to plant during their visits to the Community Garden.
- Coffs Harbour Primary School's ESL class will hold an excursion to the garden in September.

Coffs Harbour City Council

Coffs Harbour City Council has provided tremendous support to the Community Garden in the following ways:

- secured lease, assistance with Plan of Management and Environmental Management
- established town water supply
- provided building materials, clean fill and mulch
- developed an MOU for CHCC education workshops on site
- CHCC recognised as Founding Membership of the Community Garden
- Invited CRCG to host stalls at annual community events eg Botanic Festival,
- Organised Costa Georgiadis to facilitate garden workshop
- Negotiate daccess to site for CHCC maintenance
- partnered with the CRCG to create first Coffs Harbour Edible Streetscape (to be completed 2 September 2012)

North Coast Regional Botanic Gardens

- use of greenhouse to establish seedling bank
- use of land to create two garden beds
- use of trucks to transport donated soil from Biomass

Service Providers, including:

Newtrain/Green Corps – Community Garden hosted unemployed young people in bush regeneration and initial projects on site as part of Certificate II Certificate Conservation and Land Management.

CHESSE Employment Agency

CHESSE provided us with space in their gardens to propagate seedlings prior to moving to our current site. Also organised field trips for our members to the established CHESSE farm

Coffs Regional Organic Producers Organisation (CROPO)

- o established MOU around common aims of sustainable food production
- o promotion of CRCG events via newsletter
- o shared stalls at local events
- o hosting CROPO composting and gardening workshops on site

North Coast TAFE, including

- o Primary Industries - student involvement, use of TAFE resources, training on site
- o Construction – assistance with building plans, negotiating student involvement in building meeting space
- o Outreach – programs targeting students who experience barriers to learning, future involvement in Macksville TAFE Community Garden.

Community Care Options

- o CRCG provided advice on CCO garden project for clients in 2011

Anglicare North Coast

- o use of meeting space for CRCG committee meetings
- o increasing involving emerging communities in Community Gardens

Coffs Harbour Settlement Services

- o increasing involving emerging communities in Community Garden

Coffs Harbour African Community Association (CHACA)

- o Oasis Project – propagating traditional African crops
- o involving emerging communities in Community Garden
- o needs assessment of Coffs Harbour African Communities

Boambee East Neighbourhood Centre

- o negotiated to hosting migrant permaculture training program in February 2013

Coffs Harbour Mens' Shed

- o custom building benches for CRCG nursery

Other Community Gardens

- o Bellingen High School Community Garden – Joint funding submissions for food forest project (pending) and African Garden project (unsuccessful). Site visits.
- o Northbank Community Garden – sharing of resources, provision of initial plants for fence line gardens
- o Lismore Community Garden – emerging partnership
- o Northey Street City Farm in Brisbane – sourcing African crop materials
- o Proposed Woolgoolga Community Garden – supporting planning efforts, negotiating CRCG auspice of project
- o Advice provided to community groups wishing to establish gardens in Sawtell, Macksville and Taree.
- o The committees of the Sandy Beach and Woolgoolga Community Garden Associations will attend the CRCG Committee meeting on 9 September to formalise ties between the organisations and examine ways the CRCG can further support their emerging projects

Monitoring & Evaluation

Attached separately.

Embedding Sustainability

The Community Garden was established upon a disused corner of a large grassy field of clay soil. The area was consisted of a small number of weed species of trees and lifeless stormwater channel choked with weeds and supporting relatively little habitat. The site has been transformed into an active and productive community garden showcasing concrete and obtainable sustainability projects that local residents have actively participated in creating. Visitors to the garden engage in practical workshops and take home skills that they can use to replicate projects in their own properties.

The project has embedded sustainability practices throughout the community in these ways:

- an embodied awareness of the passing of the seasons, and the range of different seasonal and climate-appropriate foods that are available in our region
- enhancing access to local, fresh, seasonal produce
- local food is becoming more accepted and more mainstreamed – more normalised; it's less of a marginal, 'alternative' thing; it's more valued and appreciated
- working on public land makes the activities more visible than they might be if they were taking place on private land, which makes a significant contribution to embedding sustainability
- through creating pathways to engagement and volunteerism, the project and its outcomes build a culture of community and sustainability (as opposed to just entrenching consumerism based on purchasing choices), as well as contributing to more social justice outcomes

The water harvesting system of the community gardens is a specific example of a concrete project that raises awareness of sustainable options that residents can employ on their properties. This low tech system included water capture from neighbouring roof space, capture of stormwater via swales and water redirection through low cost aquapipe to provide water for trees and feed the waterway. The waterway itself improves the quality of the water that reaches our creek system through the use of endemic reed species readily available in the local area. Signage (to be erected in September) provides visitors with an educational tour of the main features of the system.

The Coffs Community Garden is a pioneer project in Coffs Harbour. Its existence has inspired other community groups to develop plans for further community gardens. The path for these groups will be easier because the learned skills and knowledge of those involved in the first project are shared freely with emerging groups and the CRCG is able to support them with through the initial process of planning and development and with materials and resources as well. We expect that there will be three more Community Garden Projects in Coffs Harbour by June 2013.

Our outreach program takes sustainable gardening into the community. CRCG members have assisted schools (Sandy Beach PS, St Augustines, Sawtell PS) and community centres (Coffs Community Options, Child Care Centre) to plan and establish gardens through advice and sharing resources. This will become a larger part of the community garden project as the main infrastructure has now been completed and members can donate more time to these activities. The Coffs Youth Centre has invited us to develop a program for young people at risk of harm and Coffs Harbour Public School will be the first participants in our on site school gardening program.

The Edible Streetscape along Combine the Combine Street Reserve is the first of its kind (date set for Fathers Day 2012). This partnership between Coffs Harbour City Council and the CRCG will develop a resource of well cared for fruit trees for community use. Many residents view food as a commodity to be traded from unknown sources and purchased at supermarkets. The community garden project demonstrates an alternate view – that food can be grown and consumed and enjoyed locally with all the environmental benefits that this brings.

Delays/ Difficulties Encountered and Modifications Implemented in Response

Securing appropriate site for community The CRCG worked closely with the staff of the Coffs Harbour City Council to identify potential areas of land appropriate for a Community Garden in Coffs Harbour since 2009. Four potential sites (England Park, Coffs Harbour Showgrounds, Coffs Harbour pool area) were identified and assessments were carried out. Local Food Alliance guest speaker Russ Grayson of the Australian City Farms & Community Gardens Network facilitated a public site assessment on the first site, which became the model for later assessments. At each site barriers were identified and the CRCG was unable to proceed.

At the fifth and current site on the Combine Street Reserve the project was initially met with strong resistance from the local residents whose properties bordered the Reserve. They felt that their lives would be disrupted by activities on site and were concerned that the project might be short term leaving an unsightly mess when it ended. The CRCG met with residents on three occasions for public consultation and made itself available for private discussions with individual residents. Residents were invited to join the Management Committee and contribute to the planning and in order to ensure that their concerns were considered. Written material was developed to address the neighbours concerns and distributed to 200 residents in surrounding streets. A highly effective 3D concept plan was created which allowed the residents to visualise the proposed Community Garden. By maintain open communication channels and addressing concerns as the arose, the CRCG was able to demonstrate to the residents that the Community Garden would be adding value to the vacant land and improve their local community. At this stage of the project we have the support of residents, although only minimal active involvement in our activities. All planning decisions that may impact upon their property or enjoyment of the park are taken in consultation with the residents. We have developed positive and trustworthy relationships with these residents and now have their support. This has resulted in generous donations of materials from these residents.

Delays to work on site- The lease to the Combine Street Reserve site was not secured until 12th May 2011 and work was commenced in April of that year. One of the initial tasks was to erect a fence to secure the site whilst building was carried out.

Wet weather impacted upon the initial building work at the site causing delays in initial projects. The site which is set back from the road was very difficult to access by for vehicles transporting materials and construction of a Council approved service road was financially prohibitive. Future periods of wet weather will impact upon the movement of materials to the site however progress on the will be less affected. The CRCG has developed much of the infrastructure and garden areas and now creates many of the materials needed by gardeners on site, including compost, green and liquid manures and has also commenced growing mulches. Further projects such as the wetlands stage two, which requires heavy rock material will be carried out during dryer periods of the year to avoid this issue.

Engaging volunteers and members of the public took a great deal longer than expected. The membership consisted of a small and dedicated group of people who developed our Plan of Management, Environmental Management Plan, planning and supporting documents and promoted the Community Garden concept to the wider community. These volunteers were the involved in initial building and gardening work on site but progress was initially slow. There was tremendous support for the project as demonstrated by a 500 strong petition in

support of Council approval of the lease and a growing email distribution list. The membership was built up slowly through guest speaking at community groups, schools and meetings with potential stakeholders, a stall presence at community festivals and events, social media, flyers on public noticeboards, newspaper articles and public meetings promoting the benefits of such a project. In February of 2012 the Management Committee developed the following strategies which have seen the active membership to grow to the above mentioned numbers and a huge increase in site presence and community involvement.

- Allotment building program – workshops targeting people interested in having their own allotment on site. Potential allotment holders are placed on a waiting list and are expected to attend workshops building 7 no-dig gardening plots at a time before being allocated their own.
- Workshops – Promotion of ‘workshops’ rather than ‘working bees’. Series of workshops with defined outcomes, which provide participants a high level of theoretical knowledge and practical skills. In reality the two achieve the same outcomes but we felt the public perception of a ‘working bee’ made it less attractive.
- Establishing a presence in local media through a regular monthly column in the Coffs Coast Alternative (until its demise), followed by a weekly column in the Coffs Coast (achieved in June 2012)
- Pizza oven – The workshop to construct the pizza oven was very successful. The pizza oven has become a draw card to workshop participants and visitors alike.
- Partnering with other organisations – Increased involvement by other community groups and service providers is seen as a key to attracting more people to the site. The Local Food Alliance, Coffs Harbour City Council and Coffs Harbour Organic Producers Organisation have held workshops on site. We have developing educational programmes with local schools which will commence in September 2012. The CRCG has applied for funding with the Bellingen High School Community Garden and Boambee East Community Centre for joint projects. Regular meetings with service providers to explore our ways to achieve common outcomes have had promising results.
- More attractive flyers – Sponsorship by a local printing company has allowed the CRCG to create attractive flyers promoting workshops and events.
- Encouraging families to participate – activities planned for children during workshops to allow the parents to participate. Gardening tools including wheelbarrows made available and play equipment sourced.

A toilet has not been included in the project to date. Building a toilet facility has been identified as an important priority early in the project. Coffs Harbour City Council have offered to assist by providing a sewerage connection however the Management Committee feels that a composting toilet would be a more appropriate alternative in line with the aims and values of the Community Garden. The Management Committee has researched commercial possibilities and surveyed other projects that have successfully installed and maintained alternative systems. The CRCG has sourced alternative funding for the project and intends to present a case to the local authority in order to secure permission and install a composting toilet by the end of 2012

The CRCG meeting space has not been constructed yet. The initial cost of the project was underestimated and a partnership organisation which had intended to build the space is unable to complete the project within our timeframe. The site survey and draftsman's drawings have been completed and Council approval for the building plan and is expected shortly. A Founding Partner agreement with Coffs Harbour City Council provided the necessary funds to complete the project. Negotiations have commenced with building firms

and the project is expected to be completed by December 2012. Water tanks have already been purchased to capture water from the roof of the completed meeting space.

The relationship between the first appointed Garden Coordinator and the Management Committee was difficult at times and caused significant delays in commencing work on site. The Garden Coordinator was unable to meet the terms of his contract and it was not renewed in January of this year. The following period was tremendously productive as the Management Committee and memberships were able to develop more inclusive decision making processes and further develop our relationships with partner organisations. The Committee members took lead project management roles previously assigned to the Garden Coordinator and developed new skills which have made the organisation stronger. The two part-time Garden Coordinators who were subsequently appointed were Committee members during this period.

Appendix C

Bellingen Community Gardens Final Report

This project has been assisted by the NSW
Government through its Environmental Trust





**Local Food Futures Project,
NSW ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST
Grant Number 2008/USM/0008
Final Report, 15th August 2012**

Summary:

From the perspective of the Bellinghen Community Gardens Association and its partners and stakeholders in Bellinghen, this Project has been highly successful. With the focal point of the dynamic and expanding High School Community garden, the Project has made an important contribution to the fostering of a strong culture of sustainability and resilience that has emerged in Bellinghen in recent years.

Amongst the many major achievements and highlights, we include the following:

- Establishment of a thriving, biodiverse and aesthetically pleased community garden at the Bellinghen High School, thereby enriching the school environmentally and culturally
- Ongoing partnerships with the Bellinghen High School Principal, teachers and students; Bellinghen Environmental Youth Experience; and Bellinghen Shire Council
- Working with several local primary schools in Bellinghen and Coffs Harbour, as well as individuals and community groups, to hold fourteen Permacultures,
- Working with the coordinators of the Nambucca Valley Local Food Network, and Coffs Harbour City Council, to hold two Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festivals, building on two Bellinghen Local Food Film Festivals (2008-9); and with the third Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival scheduled for October 2012
- Conducting an extensive Local Food Systems Assessment, involving in-depth, semi-structured interviews with over 30 local farmers and growers, farmers' representatives, wholesalers, retailers, and providers of emergency food relief
- Contributing to the formation and dissemination of a Local Food Futures framework, which lays the foundations for embedding a culture of sustainability and resilience around food and agriculture for local government and other stakeholders in the region.

Activities undertaken during the period (February 2012 – July 2012)

Education & Awareness-Raising

- Bellingen High School Garden Open Day, 2/6/12, 100 attending from the School and wider community. Activities included a photo and garden art exhibition, speech from the High School principle, music by a local student group (Barefoot Fiddlers), storytelling for children, plant identification facilitated by the Garden Coordinator
- Photo exhibition documenting the progress and activities of the Bellingen High School Garden mounted in the Bellingen Public Library, from May 2012-October 2012
- Permablitz at Toormina Mary Help of Christians Primary School, 8/5/12, 50 participants
- Permablitz at Bellingen Youth Centre, 12/5/12, 8 participants
- Permablitz at Sawtell Public Primary School, 22/5/12, 46 participants
- Permablitz at Coffs Harbour Women's Refuge Centre 8/8/12, 10 participants
- Planning and coordination for 3rd Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival, scheduled for October 2012
- Presentations made to the North Coast branch of the Planning Institute of Australia, Bellingen, 25/5/12, 45 participants
- Permablitzes scheduled for August 2012: Gumnut Cottage Day Care Centre, Coffs Harbour (4/8/12); Ganumbie Day Care Centre, Toormina (11/8/12)

Model Community Garden

- Garden shed and new tools utilised during regular working bees and workshops with students
- Pizza oven utilised
- Worm-farm utilised
- Garden open day held with live music, pizza, and photo exhibition 2/6/12, - 100 participants
- 8 aquaplate disability-friendly raised garden beds planted and utilised
- Thursday afternoon working bees conducted through Semester 1, shifting to Saturday afternoon during Semester 2, with average of 6 attendees
- Community members and high school parents regularly harvesting vegies and herbs from the garden
- Timber seating and table utilised for meetings, social activities, lunches by students
- Trailer utilised to facilitate materials delivery, e.g. donation of horse manure from the Bellingen Royal Show
- Soil building activities – composting, application of compost teas, and sowing of green manure crops
- Continued partnership with local youth group Bellingen EYE (Environmental Youth Experience), supporting their leadership program in the High School Community Garden
- Hosting of students from the Jetty High School (Coffs Harbour) – Bellingen EYE
- Hosting of students from the Youth Environmental Council (Bowraville, Jetty High School, Grafton, Kempsey and South Grafton): day of pizza-making, no-dig gardening, compost-making and youth leadership skills workshop – Bellingen EYE
- Continued partnerships with teachers at the High School for groups of students to volunteer in it during school hours
- Conducted 20 workshops at the Garden for the school students through Semesters 1 & 2, with an average of 20-25 attendees (March-July 2012)
- Workshop on herbs for use during pregnancy and breast-feeding, 18/6/12, 8 participants
- Face Book page for the High School Community Garden regularly updated
- Partnership with newly-formed Bellingen Permaculture Group consolidated, hundreds of dollars of plant cuttings donated and planted
- Garden beds replanted and mulched for autumn / winter
- Kitchen paving area completed (Feb-Mar 2012)
- Kitchen area extended, with roof (April – May 2012)
- Utilisation of aquaponics infrastructure, adjacent to the garden site, being negotiated with the High School principal

Partner / Stakeholder Communication

- Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival website updated and promoted (April 2012 ongoing)(*target audience communication*)
- Face Book page for the Bellingen High School Community Gardens Association and Bellingen High School Community Garden updated and promoted (February 2012 ongoing)(*target audience communication*)
- Bellingen Community Gardens Association group page on the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance ning site updated (*target audience communication*)
- Stories in the Bellingen Courier Sun promoting social and gardening activities at the Bellingen High School Community Garden (*target audience communication*)
- Bellingen High School Community Garden promoted in the High School newsletter and via the High School website (*target audience communication*)
- Regular emails and updates promoting gardening and project activities sent to 185 people via the Bellingen Local Food Network e-mail list (*target audience communication*)
- Regular monthly meetings of the Bellingen Community Gardens Association Management Committee, which now includes a member of the Bellingen EYE
- Regular fortnightly column published in the *Rural Weekly* section of the Coffs Coast Advocate since August 2010, promoting project activities and other topics relevant to the wider project objective (*target audience communication*)
- 500 copies of flyers for the Bellingen High School Garden and the Bellingen Community Gardens Association delivered to households in nearby streets, and left at cafes and restaurants in Bellingen (*target audience communication*)
- Local recipe book produced for students and community, focusing on garden produce
- Evaluation meeting held with Coffs Harbour City Council, North Coast Health, and Coffs Harbour Community Gardens Association to conduct a final evaluation of the Project and its outcomes (20 July 2012)

Stakeholder Engagement/Participation

The following groups have participated in and engaged with the diverse activities of the project:

- School children (primary and high school) and local youth (Bellingen EYE)
- Youth leaders and mentors
- Parents of school children
- Teachers and the acting principal of Bellingen Public Primary School
- Teachers, students and parents at the Mary Help of Christian School, Sawtell Public School, Sandy Beach School,
- Members of Transition Bellingen
- Local government and private sectors planners from a wide range of institutions across the mid-north and north coast regions
- State government (DPI, DPC) senior staff
- Members of the general public

Assessment of levels of participation

Those participating most consistently and intensively have been local youth, i.e. students from the Bellingen High School, especially those who are also members of the Bellingen EYE.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Please see attached evaluation report in tabular form, which documents the progress made towards achieving the immediate, intermediate and ultimate outcomes, as measured against the performance indicators. The assessment of the BCGA and its principal project partners (Bellingen EYE) is that significant progress has made been towards all three levels of outcomes according to the outcomes hierarchy.

- **YouTube** - [Bellingen Public Permablitz](#), [Boambee Permablitz](#)
- **Photos** – attached

Unanticipated outcomes / multiplier effects

- The Coffs Coast Advocate Rural Weekly column continues to reach a wide audience and raise awareness of the project activities as well as to wider issues of sustainability and resilience
- The local food film competition organised as part of the second Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival attracted six high quality entries, with the winner being a short film about the recovery of bush tucker knowledge by a landowner in the Nambucca valley; this competition continues into the third Local Food Film festival due for October 2012
- The combination of the permablitzes with the green grants made available to schools and community groups by Coffs Harbour City Council has enabled the project to reach a much wider audience than might otherwise have been the case

Embedding Sustainability

This Project needs to be contextualised amongst a number of other initiatives that have taken place concurrently in Bellingen over the past four-five years. Since the formation of the Bellingen Local Food Network in 2007, which was a significant factor leading to the formation of the Coffs Harbour Local Food Alliance and hence to this Project, these initiatives have included:

- [Transition Bellingen](#)
- Edible Streetscapes Project (part-funded through this grant)
- [Bello Food Box](#)
- Bellingen Seed Savers
- North Bank Community Garden
- Dorrigo Green Lifestyle Group
- Bellingen Permaculture Collective – Food Swaps
- Bellingen Free Market

The drive for sustainability in Bellingen has inspired similar initiatives further afield, such as the Nambucca Valley Local Food Network. As mentioned earlier, members of this Network have played a leading role in the continued realisation of the Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival. All these initiatives feed off each other, and support each other.

The establishment of the High School garden, and the establishment of permaculture gardens in several primary schools and community organisations via the permablitz program, has played a leading role in the embedding of sustainability in two principal ways:

- It has shown how ideals can be put into action in concrete projects, and
- It has created (together with the Edible Streetscapes program) visible demonstrations of sustainable living.

The project has helped embed sustainability in the wider community in the following ways:

- an embodied awareness of the passing of the seasons, and the range of different seasonal and climate-appropriate foods that are available in our region
- enhancing access to local, fresh, seasonal produce
- local food is becoming more accepted and more mainstreamed – more normalised; it's less of a marginal, 'alternative' thing; it's more valued and appreciated
- working on public land makes the activities more visible than they might be if they were taking place on private land, which makes a significant contribution to embedding sustainability
- through creating pathways to engagement and volunteerism, the project and its outcomes build a culture of community and sustainability (as opposed to just entrenching consumerism based on purchasing choices), as well as contributing to more social justice outcomes
- the High School garden has rescued and rehabilitated what was previously a totally degraded paddock, and made it aesthetically pleasing, so that it is now incorporated into the school life and used regularly by students and staff for lunch and socialisation – this is a contribution to what we might call 'psychological sustainability'

Delays/Difficulties Encountered

Over the life of the project, there have been some significant difficulties, which as a consequence have produced delays and modifications in the implementation of the project:

- ***Securing land for the community garden:*** During 2009, the BCGA worked closely with staff of the Bellingen Shire Council to identify potential sites on public land for the establishment of the community garden. One in particular was chosen and a DA process commenced, but this subsequently had to be withdrawn after a strong backlash from local residents who felt that the BCGA were 'alienating public land' from existing recreational uses. This was resolved when the High School Principal offered the site on High School land, however it did cause delays to the project timeframe. This experience of community opposition on the basis of 'alienating open space' is not uncommon amongst groups attempting to establish community gardens elsewhere in Australia. In Bellingen it was compounded by the lack of decent public land being set aside during earlier phases of development in Bellingen
- ***Resistance from some staff at the High School:*** During the construction phases at the High School, some of the ground staff were resistant to the idea of the community garden being located adjacent to the school's agricultural land, and suspicious of the organic and permaculture principles being applied. This lingers to some extent, but over time trust and relationships have been successfully established
- ***Slow-decision making processes*** – within the school, has caused some delays
- ***Constraints on community involvement*** – because the garden is in the school, it is not accessible to community members during school hours; and we don't always have someone present in the garden outside school hours (e.g. a 2-hour working bee)
- ***Securing commitment to ongoing involvement from community members*** – while a cohort of gardeners and volunteers is developing, this has been a slow process, and potentially poses a challenge to the long-term sustainability of the garden. To date, more time has been invested in constructing the garden and developing the site, than has been possible to invest in engaging with the broader community. There have been communication and other strategies put in place to address this (leaflets, articles in the newspaper, Facebook, launch events, social events, message board at the garden, signage on the street, getting a roster of supervisors for working bees, establishing an email list), but clearly this challenge still remains. A lot of nearby residents, and parents – 6-10 people a day – are picking fresh produce from the garden every day. Our challenge is to get some of these people to commit to becoming regular volunteers and gardeners, which is a challenge being faced in other community

groups. One possibility being discussed is whether individual allotments should be established, to create a more direct sense of engagement with, and responsibility for, the garden. Another is to offer more skills-based workshops, and re-name 'working bees' to a more attractive name like 'community harvests', so people don't associate gardening with hard work. Food swaps is another possibility, and / or acquiring a good coffee machine (though that would then need maintenance).

- **Two instances of vandalism** - this is not seen as a major issue, given it has only happened twice in over 12 months.

Modifications

The principal modifications have been identified above, i.e.:

- Selecting an alternative site (the high school) for the community garden
- Adopting a range of communication strategies and other approaches to try to get more direct and ongoing engagement from the local community. This continues to be a challenge for the High School garden

Local Food Futures Project Part B: Evaluation Report

Food for thought: Where food, community and change connect



THIS IS A LOOKING AFTER OUR ENVIRONMENT PROJECT
Helping to achieve the 2030 Community Vision

Executive Summary

The Local Food Futures Project was funded by the NSW Environmental Trust as part of the Urban Sustainability Program. The project ran for 3.5 years from February 2009 to August 2012. The Local Food Futures project was ambitious in its aim of building community resilience towards the threats of climate change and peak oil and the need to transition to a more sustainable, low energy future. The project delivered on this aim with three clear objectives.

Project Objectives

1. To formulate a multi-level strategic planning response facilitating food localisation in the area.
2. To increase community knowledge, awareness and skills in sustainable consumption and healthy lifestyles around the theme of local food
3. To support community groups in showcasing sustainable living activities for the wider community around the production of local food

In order to deliver these objectives three key focus areas were identified, around which all project activities focussed.

Key Focus Areas

- **Strategic Response** – the development of a regional Local Food Framework with key stakeholders and the formation of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance (LFA)
- **Community Awareness and Education** – a range of activities, events and workshops around local food production and consumption
- **Showcasing** – two best practice community gardens showcasing sustainable living with a series of hands-on community workshops

The project has achieved all of the three objectives in a very successful way. The Local Food Framework has been developed and is available for download at www.coffscoastlocalfood.com.au. The Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance has facilitated or partnered to deliver 18 different projects with 3737 participants as part of the grant. Two large community gardens have been developed showcasing local food production and sustainable living practices, as well as a further 9 smaller school and community gardens. The gardens have run 27 community workshops to date with 457 participants as well as 20 workshops for school students.

Key project outputs

- 18 projects delivered
- 82+ different events held with a total of 3,737 participants
- 11 community gardens formed
- Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2012-2020 developed
- Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance (LFA) formed with 119 registered members on the website
- LFA Facebook page has 669 “likes”
- 179 individuals registered on the LFA email database

The evaluation of the various activities undertaken throughout the project, gives a strong indication of the significant reach and impact of the project across the region. Whilst changes or impacts at the entire community or regional level are extremely difficult to measure for a program of this size, the evaluation certainly provides evidence of an increasing awareness and understanding of the value of local food, as well as of an increase in skills around local food production. This is demonstrated by a community survey with 81 responses that showed 89.0% of respondents have changed where they buy fruit and vegetables in the past two years to favour local food supply. Of these people, 98.1% report that they made the changes to support the local economy and 63% doing it for environmental concerns. 67.2% stated that obtaining local food is as important to them as the cost and significantly 25% stated that obtaining local food was more important than the cost.

Key evaluation findings

The Local Food Alliance has successfully built active partnerships around local food and has made a significant impact in the region over the past two years

- 11 partnerships formed during the project
- LFA and partners undertook 18 projects and ran over 82 different events with 3737 participants

People are changing where they source their fruit and vegetables to favour local food

- 88% of survey respondents have changed where they buy fruit and vegetables in the past two years to favour local food supply
- Increase of 5% over two years of those sourcing all their fruit and vegetables from grower’s markets
- Those buying all their fruit and vegetables in a shop/supermarket has fallen from 28% in 2010 to 4.9% in 2012

People are learning and implementing new skills around food production

- A significant increase (5.1%) in those people who source their produce primarily from their own gardens over the past 2 years
- 21.9% increase in those who have a functioning vegetable garden from 2 years ago
- 86% of community garden workshops attendees indicated they left with new skills and 95% left with increased knowledge

Support for local food systems is increasingly being integrated into local council policies and planning tools

- Bellingen Council DCP amended to encourage fruit and vegetable growing
- Coffs Council Draft Community Garden Policy and Edible Landscapes Guidelines developed
- Coffs Council Open Space Strategy supports community gardens
- Community Strategic Plans of both Bellingen and Coffs actively state support for local food systems in their LGAs

There have been localised increases in biodiversity which will increase over time

- Over 150 different species of trees and plants planted over 6000m2 in the 2 community gardens, where previously there was a monoculture of invasive grasses
- Observed increases in bird, insect and frog life.

The project has had a significant “ripple” effect with many secondary impacts and significant further dollars leveraged

- at least 13 other projects have occurred as a result of partnerships and/or projects associated with the Local Food Futures project
- the original \$250,000 Local Food Futures grant has leveraged a further \$98,180 in additional funding
- Estimated in-kind time and cash contributions from the lead and other organisations is valued at \$239,460
- Estimated volunteer time from community groups is valued at \$328,500

The legacy of the Local Food Futures project is significant. The Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance will continue and now has resources (website, logo, banners, increasing membership) in place to support ongoing promotion of local food. The alliance will continue to seek funding to further its aims.

An enduring legacy of the project will be the community gardens. These spaces will continue to be hubs of networking and learning into the future, offering people a positive vision of a sustainable future. These gardens have already independently applied for and received some further funding to continue their work.

A legacy that is harder to quantify but probably one of the most significant is the many undocumented impacts or “ripple” effects that the project has created and will continue to create. It is beyond the scope of this evaluation to research in depth the full ripple effects of the project but such a research project could deliver a wealth of information about how one relatively small grant funded project brings significant additional value, both in real dollar terms and in building social capital within communities, leading to ongoing and sustained change for sustainability.





Introduction

The Local Food Futures Project was funded by the NSW Environmental Trust as part of the Urban Sustainability Program. The project ran for 3.5 years from February 2009 to August 2012. This included, in the first year, the completion of a Business Plan, an evaluation Outcomes Hierarchy and the development of the Coffs Coast Local Food Framework planning document. The Framework document was then used to inform the project activities which ran for 2.5 years.

Key stakeholders and methods of engagement

The following table outlines the stakeholder groups who have been involved in the evaluation of the project and the method by which they were involved, as well as the type of data that was collected.

Stakeholder group	Data collection method/tool	Type of data collected
Local Food Alliance Steering Group	½ day evaluation workshop	Experiential, reach of partnership and activities, stakeholder lists
Community Garden Associations	Final evaluation reports	Qualitative and quantitative
	Interviews with school group, teachers and principal	Experiential/qualitative
Project recipients	Final reports	Qualitative
Community	Workshop/activity evaluation forms	Quantitative and qualitative
	On-line community survey at project completion	Quantitative
Project Management team	Team meetings	Research/documentation; personal reflection

Evaluation Findings

Project Aim

The aim of the Local Food Futures Project is to build community resilience towards the threats of climate change and peak oil and the need to transition to a more sustainable, low energy future.

This aim is far reaching and provides an ongoing focus for the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance. This project aimed to build community resilience towards climate change and peak oil by focussing on our local food system. These long term aims are always difficult to measure progress against however in order to make some comment on a shift towards greater community resilience we need to consider a number of outcomes:

1. Has there been increased awareness of the importance of local food?
2. Have there been any behavioural changes around local food?
3. Have there been increases in skills and knowledge that allows the community to engage with local food?
4. Has the project built foundations for continuing the journey towards sustainability?

Whilst the project has been relatively small compared to many of the larger Urban Sustainability Program funded projects, the evaluation indicates a clear shift over the past two years in local awareness and behaviour change around local food. There is

increased awareness about the value of local food as evidenced by significant changes in where people surveyed are sourcing their food. 89% of survey respondents recorded that they have changed where they purchase their produce from in the last two years to favour local food supply. There is an indication that there has been significant behavioural change, in terms of purchasing of local food, in the past two years. There is also some evidence that there has been increased skills and knowledge around local food within the community. Of those surveyed, there was a 21.9% increase in those who have a functioning vegetable garden and a significant increase (5.1%) in those people who source their produce primarily from their own gardens.

Finally the project has built strong foundations for the continuation of this work. The project design was developed to ensure that the activities undertaken were embedded within the community, using a multi-stakeholder approach and seeking to build capacity and support the many local communities who are passionate about local food. The way the project has engaged at a grass-roots level means that many of the project activities will continue.

The development of the community gardens is a huge investment in the local communities. For years to come they will be places where people come together to learn about environmental sustainability and to learn and be inspired together; building stronger communities for the future.

Project Objectives

1. To formulate a multi-level strategic planning response facilitating food relocalisation in the area.
2. To increase community knowledge, awareness and skills in sustainable consumption and healthy lifestyles around the theme of local food
3. To support community groups in showcasing sustainable living activities for the wider community around the production of local food

The project has achieved all of the above objectives in a very successful way. The below considers the success of each objective.

Objective 1 - To formulate a multi-level strategic planning response facilitating food relocalisation in the area

A multi-stakeholder strategic local food framework has been developed. This is now being revised and adapted as part of the Coffs Harbour City Council's Economic Development Strategy. It continues to drive work in the area of local food and has been referred to in other planning documents including the Regional Development Australia Mid North Coast Regional Plan 2012-2030 and the Community Strategic Plans of both Coffs Harbour City Council and Bellingen Shire Council.

In addition to this a number of other planning and policy tools have been written and/or updated to include integration of local food outcomes. These include:

- Bellingen Shire Council DCP amendments – development of guidelines for local food in new developments
- Draft Coffs Harbour City Council Community Garden Policy and Guidelines
- Local Food Assessment
- Coffs Harbour City Council's Open Space Strategy

Objective 2 - To increase community knowledge, awareness and skills in sustainable consumption and healthy lifestyles around the theme of local food

There is significant evaluation evidence that the project has achieved this objective. There has been an apparent shift in people's behaviours around local food and a glance at the sheer number of local food activities that are happening around the region, that have started over the past 3 years, points to a growing focus on local food.

Objective 3 - To support community groups in showcasing sustainable living activities for the wider community around the production of local food

This objective has been achieved with the development of the two community gardens. Both Coffs Harbour and Bellingen, the two LGAs who are partners in the grant, now have community spaces that offer on-going learning opportunities for all the community around sustainable living. Prior to the Environment Trust grant there was no space and no place for communities to come together to learn and share their knowledge and skills. While in their early stages these places have already become important community hubs and they will only continue to grow and flourish over time. They form a fantastic legacy of this project, which cannot be underestimated. In addition to this, the Coffs Regional Community Gardens Association, formed to develop the Coffs garden, are now auspicing and working with the Woolgoolga community to the north of Coffs Harbour, to start another garden in that community.



Evaluation methodology

Please refer also to the Outcomes Hierarchy in this report which outlines the evaluation in detail.

The table below outlines the main activities of the Local Food Futures Project and evaluation methodologies employed for each of those activities.

Activity	Data collection method/ tool	Type of data collected
Coffs Coast Local Food Framework	Quantitative	No of people attending forums, distribution
Permablitz	Qualitative -Video, interviews, Quantitative data collection	No. of participants, area planted, attitudes and values
Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival (and Short Film Competition)	Survey	No. of participants, satisfaction levels
Coffs Coast Local Food Directory	Quantitative data collection	No. of organisations signed up
Farm Gate Trail and Seasonal Calender	Quantitative data collection	No. circulated
Local food speaker program	End of event survey	No. attending, attitudes and values
Nutrition/cooking workshops	Visual, interviews	No of attendees, opinions, values and attitudes
Edible Streetscapes (Bellingen and Coffs Harbour)	Visual	No of participants, media coverage
Local film nights	Survey	No of participants, skills and knowledge
Bellofoodbox marketing	Quantitative	% increase in box number
“Food for Life” youth local food project	Interviews, data collection	No of participants, participant and staff values and attitudes
Community Garden in Bellingen	Interviews	No of attendees, skills and knowledge
Community Garden in Coffs Harbour	Workshop surveys	No of attendees, skills and knowledge



Summary of Project Activities, Outputs and Immediate Outcomes

The following is a summary of the main activities, project outputs and immediate outcomes undertaken as part of the Local Food Futures Project.

Key Focus Area	Project	Project Outputs	Project Immediate Outcomes
Strategic Response	Development of Coffs Coast Local Food Framework	Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2010-2020 developed. Forums held and draft framework presented to groups for input	Forums held to develop framework with 60 attendees. Feedback sessions held at 7 locations. 2000+ brochures distributed at events.
	Coffs Council Community Garden Policy and Guidelines	Community Policy and Guidelines drafted	Dialogue opened with relevant sections of Council about the importance of local food
	Bellingen Council DCP amendments	Development of DCP guidelines for local food in new developments	DCP guidelines endorsed by Bellingen Shire Council
Consumer awareness and education	Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival (and Short Film Competition)	A Local Food Film Festival was developed and ran in 2010 – 2011). A Short Film competition was instigated in 2011. 10 films (feature and shorts) were shown at 3 locations in 3 LGA's (Coffs, Nambucca, Bellingen). The film group are running the Film Festival and competition again in 2012.	Over 350 people attended the festival over the two years (200 in 2010, 150 in 2011). Short film competition attracted 6 entries in its inaugural year.
	Permablitz	Permablitz program designed and facilitated	9 Permablitzes held with 164 participants
	Eden at Home project	Eden at Home course run twice	2 courses with 20 participants
	Coffs Coast Local Food Directory	Partnership with Local Harvest directory, linked to LFA website	14 organisations signed up to Local Harvest as of Sept 2012 – this is a new product so number will grow over time
	Farm Gate Trail and Seasonal Calender	“Coffs Coast Harvest” seasonal food guide developed and published, Harvest Spring Dinner and networking/forum event held as launch for the guide	1200 guides published and distributed, 80 people attended Harvest Spring Dinner event including chefs, restaurateurs, producers, wholesalers and retailers.
	Development of LFA resources	Banners, brochure, case studies and website developed	Local Food Alliance stalls held at events throughout the area.
	Local food speaker program	Speaker program developed and facilitated	8 speaker events held in total with a total of 1301 attendees including 315 attendees plus 450 school students and over 536 people at Costa Georgiadis' talks as part of the Sustainable Living Festival
	Nutrition/cooking workshops	Workshops held at Coffs Growers Market including Show us ya Dish and Garden2Kitchen events	300+ people attended these events.



Summary of Project Activities, Outputs and Immediate Outcomes (continued)

Key Focus Area	Project	Project Outputs	Project Immediate Outcomes
Consumer awareness and education (continued)	Edible Streetscapes (Bellingen and Coffs Harbour)	Participatory events to plant citrus avenues along Connell Park in Bellingen and Combine Street in Coffs Harbour. These projects are continuing in other locations across the 2 LGAs	30 school pupils attended the initial planting day in Bellingen. 150 people attended the launch of the Bellingen Edible Streetscapes. 30 people attended the Coffs planting day.
	Local film nights	Two local film nights held in Coffs Harbour and Bellingen (Food Inc and Growing Change)	220 people attended the film nights
	Schools scarecrow competition	Annual schools scarecrow competition instigated and held as part of the Sustainable living Festival (competition is continuing in 2012)	38 entries in 2011, winning scarecrows are now living in the Coffs Community Garden
	Bellofoodbox marketing	Marketing products developed for local not for profit community vegetable box business	Box numbers increased by 14%, 4 new growers found.
	“Food for Life” youth local food project	Bellingen High School local food project facilitated. Project is continuing with funding provided by the school	Gardening is offered as part of the sports curriculum. 25 school students attended regular workshops, Bellingen High School Youth Environment Council formed, regional YEC gathering held with 52 students from across the region
Showcasing	Community Garden in Bellingen	Community garden developed at the High School in Bellingen	10 workshops held, 80 people attended workshops, 650 people engaged through the project in garden development, 40 regular users of the garden, 117 Facebook likes, email list of 185 people
	Community Garden in Coffs Harbour	Community Garden developed on the Combine Street Reserve in Coffs Harbour	17 workshops held at gardens with 357 attendees, 108 paid garden members, 269 Facebook likes, 473 people on email list

Other local food activities

The following are other local food activities that have been instigated during the Local Food Futures

grant funding period. Whilst not funded by the grant, many have occurred as a direct result of partnerships built through the LFA and/or the capacity of the local community groups that have come into existence because of the Local Food Futures project.

Project/Activity	Links to local food project
Food Systems Assessment	Funded by an LFA partner member
100 Mile Challenge	Partnerships built with local chefs through the LFF project
Edible Streetscapes (businesses)	A continuation of the original Edible Streetscapes Bellingen project funded by the grant
Bellingen Council food garden	A continuation of the original Edible Streetscapes Bellingen project funded by the grant
Bellofoodbox	This project came into being during the time of the grant program. LFA has promoted the initiative through its networks
Love Food Hate Waste challenge	This project was delivered in partnership with the LFA
Northbank Community Garden	This garden came into being during the project and knowledge has been shared between garden groups including garden visits
Coffs Growers Market Rapid Market Assessment	Partnership developed between LFA members
Woolgoolga Community Garden	Auspiced by, and expertise sought from, the Coffs Regional Community Gardens association, formed as part of the grant funded project.
African seedlings project	Coffs Regional Community Gardens association, formed as part of the grant funded project received grant funding for this project
International Composting Awareness Week activities	Run in partnership with LFA
Community Garden Waterways project	Coffs Regional Community Gardens association, formed as part of the grant funded project received grant funding for this project
Community Garden Water project	Coffs Regional Community Gardens association, formed as part of the Local Food Futures project received grant funding for this project

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Project/Activity	Links to local food project
Bellingen EYE Food project	Bellingen EYE formed a partnership with the Bellingen Community Garden Association and successfully received funding for a youth food project. This project grew and continued as the “Food for Life” funded by the LFF grant
Sustainable Living Festival	Cross-promotion of events
Coffs Growers Markets healthy eating projects	Partnership developed between LFA members
Coffs Coast Advocate column	Partnership developed between LFA members
Cultural Café	No direct link
Coffs Growers Markets	Many LFF project activities were carried out here. Patronage of the Growers Markets has grown significantly during the past 2 years.
Aquaponics at Bellingen High School	An old system was re-invigorated by the Bellingen Community Garden Association in partnership with Bellingen High School
Bellingen High School Youth Environment Council	This group was formed as a direct result of the “Food for Life” youth project, funded by the LFF project
Bowraville Community Garden	No direct link
Macksville Community Garden	No direct link
CHCC Green Schools Sustainability Program	Partnered with the LFA Permablitz program to offer increased provision of service to schools
CHCC Sustainable Living Festival (SLF)	Partnered with LFA to deliver local food aspects of the SLF
Sawtell Community Citrus Grove	Following on from the successful Combine Street planting, CHCC and the community partnered for this project
Sawtell Public School citrus planting	Following on from the successful Combine Street edible landscape planting, CHCC and Sawtell Public School partnered for this project

Project Intermediate and Ultimate Outcomes

The projects overall intermediate and ultimate outcomes are outlined below:

The project identified the following outcomes in the Business Plan and in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:

1. Increased and active partnerships built around local food
2. Improved community knowledge and awareness of the value and availability of local food
3. Increased community skills around local food
4. Increased backyard biodiversity
5. Integration of local food production in Council policies and planning

Whilst most of these could be considered intermediate outcomes, with the exception of increased backyard biodiversity, in reality it is extremely difficult to measure ultimate outcomes. For example one ultimate outcome could have been changed behaviour around local food leading to decreased CO₂ emissions from transportation of food from further distances. The reality is that this would be extremely difficult to measure and is almost

impossible to measure on the scale of this project. Therefore we have concentrated on reporting on the measurable outcomes of the project.

The projects intermediate and ultimate outcomes have been evaluated using the following tools:

- an online community survey undertaken in August 2012 at the completion of the project
- surveys gathered from specific activities undertaken throughout the project
- quantitative data collection e.g. number of plant species
- policy/document reviews
- Local Food Alliance Steering Committee evaluation workshop held August 2012
- Interviews with key stakeholders and project participants

Outcome 1: Increased and active partnerships around local food

It can be strongly demonstrated that there have been a diverse range of partnerships developed during the project that have delivered a range of unanticipated outcomes. Please refer also to the section on unexpected outcomes where this is discussed further. Many of the partnerships formed will continue to deliver projects and outcomes into the future.

The following partnerships have been identified as being formed as a direct result of the Local Food Futures project:

Partnership formed	Activities
Local Food Alliance (LFA) partnership	Overseeing of the Local Food Futures grant project, development of the Local Food Framework 2010 - 2020
Partnership developed between LFA members	Local Food Systems Assessment
The Advocate newspaper and LFA partner	Regular local food articles in the Advocate newspaper
Partnership developed between LFA members	Coffs Growers Market Rapid Market Assessment
Bellingen Community Garden Association and Bellingen EYE	“Food4LYF” youth project at Bellingen High School Community Garden
Bellingen Community Garden Association and Bellingen High School	Bellingen High School Community Garden location, Aquaponics project
Coffs Growers Markets and LFA	Many awareness raising activities held at the Growers Markets
LFA and Nambucca Local Food Network	Local Food Film Festival, other local food networking activities/forums
Bellingen Council and BCGA (both LFA partner members)	Presentation to PIA Regional Branch 25 May 2012
Partnership developed between LFA partner members	Coffs Growers Markets healthy eating projects



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Outcome 2: Improved community knowledge and awareness of the value and availability of local food

There were a range of activities within the Local Food Futures project that sought to increase community knowledge and awareness of the value (both ecologically, socially and economically) and the availability of local food. The projects that focussed on awareness raising were those located within the key focus areas of “Consumer Awareness and Education” and “Showcasing”.

Datasets for the evaluation of this outcome include workshop and event surveys, Local Food Film festival surveys and the online community survey.

In terms of general awareness raising about local food, the reach of the project through its many activities and associated publicity, is a reasonable measure. The project has had a significant reach with the number of people that attended events hosted by the LFA totalled over 2730. Those reached by print communications were 83,654 and the number of people reached by web based communications (website facebook and e-newsletter) was 967.

This is significantly in excess of the original targeted reach of the project (refer Schedule C in Part A: Final Report).

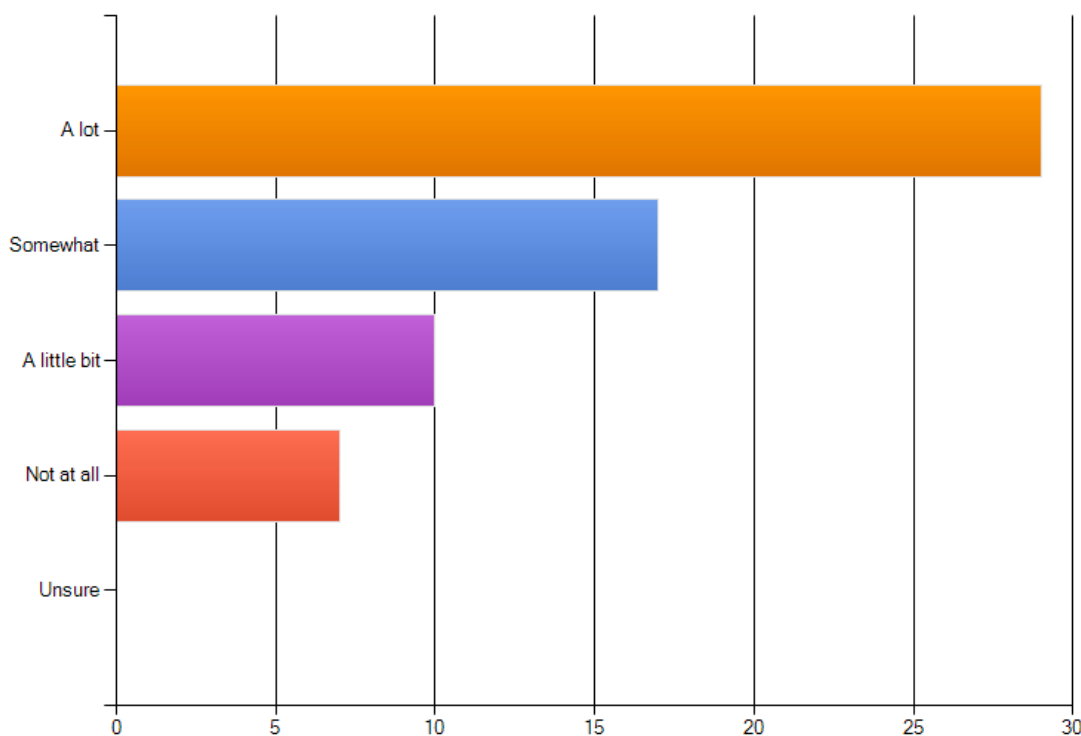
An online survey was undertaken in August 2012 to investigate the impact of the Local Food Futures project in the region and to gain further information on the reach of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance and directions for the future. 81 responses were received.

In terms of the awareness of people about the existence of the Local Food Alliance, 78.2% had heard of the Local Food Alliance whilst 46% of respondents had attended a Local Food Alliance activity.

86% of participants who attended workshops run as part of the project said they left with new skills and 95% said that they had increased their knowledge. Asked about any changes they had made as a result of attending an LFA event, 32% stated that they had increased their knowledge, 30% either now grow more food or choose more local food, 11% feel they have increased their involvement in the local community and 9% have taken action to minimise their waste. 63% of those who attended LFA activities felt that they had an increased understanding of where to source local food.

A highly significant 88.9% of those surveyed said they had changed where they buy their fruit and vegetables in the last two years to favour local food supply, either by a lot, somewhat or a little bit.

Have you changed where you buy your fruit and vegetables in the last two years to favour local food supply?



When asked the reason for the change the majority responded that it was because they wanted to support the local economy (98%), followed by environmental concerns (63%). Multiple answers were allowed for this question.

The survey also asked a number of questions around where people were sourcing their food in January 2010 (at the start of the Local Food Futures Project) as opposed to how they are sourcing their food now. The table below documents the responses.

How did you obtain most of your food in 2010 and how do you obtain most of your food in 2012?

Response options	Response %		Change %
	2010	2012	
Most from my garden	3.1	8.2	+5.1
Some from garden/some from the shop	40.6	54.1	+13.5
All from the shop	28.1	4.9	-23.2
All from the Growers Market	1.6	6.6	+5
Some at the Growers markets/ some at the shop	40.6	57.4	+16.8



kick off for...
Edible Streetscapes
Saturday 26th March
4 p.m. till dusk
Connell Park
Football Match
Dinner 6pm- \$15

Edible Streetscape invites you to Connell Park to celebrate the recent planting of citrus trees for the enjoyment of all.



A delicious, locally grown dinner by chef Nathan Walker from True Local will be available.

A friendly football match for all ages, a local food feast and funky acoustic music for a late afternoon of family fun.

Bring along your football shoes, a rug, your children and friends.

Bring a pair of gardening gloves if you would like to help care for the trees by mulching them.



A joint initiative by the Bellingher Chamber of Commerce, the North Bank Community Garden and Transition Bellingher, supported by the Coils Coast Local Food Futures Alliance

MENU

Entrée
 Mixed bean and herb salad

Le plat principal
 Goat curry served with chunky vegetables (vegetarian option available)

Dessert
 Bunya & macadamia nut flourless honey cake with fresh berries

*Bookings essential! Buy tickets at: Hearth Fire or Kombu Wholefoods

This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust

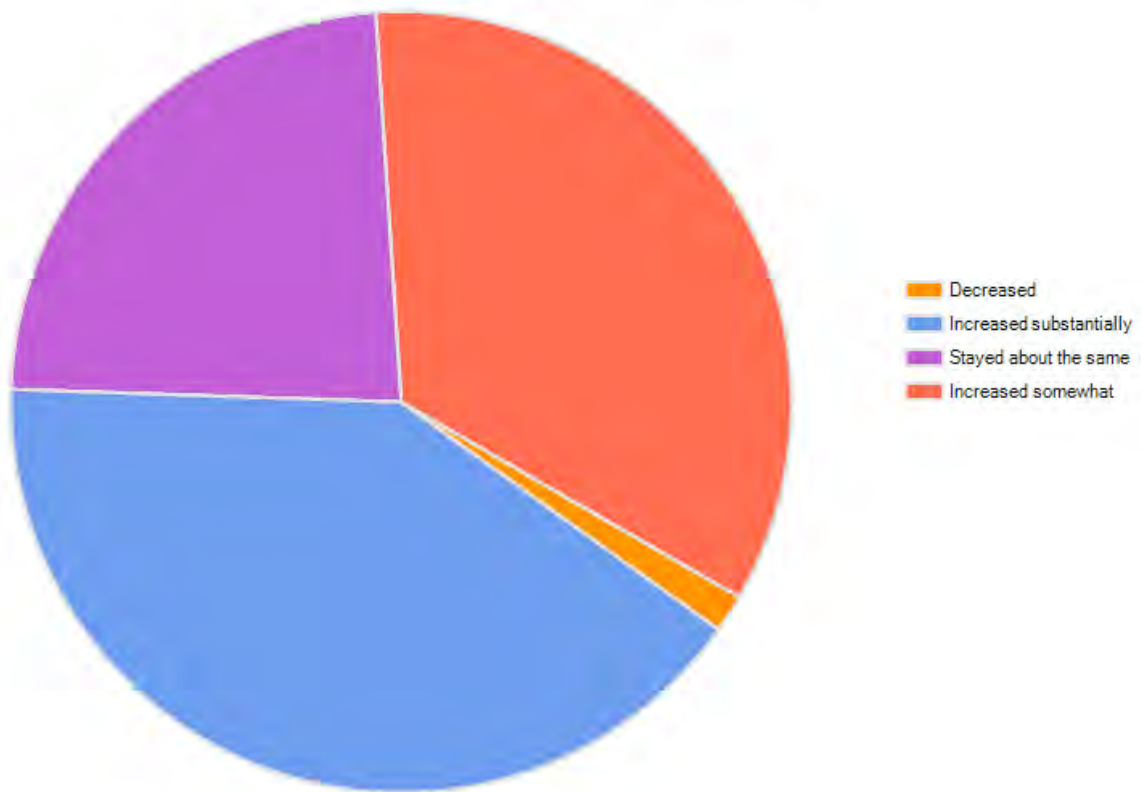


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It can be clearly seen that there has been a significant change in where survey respondents are sourcing their food. The most significant shifts are away from sourcing food only from the shop towards sourcing food more from local markets and/or growing some in the garden. The survey indicates that whilst survey respondents may still need to visit supermarkets or other shops for their food, the diversity of locations where people access food has increased.

The community survey also indicated that for over 40% of respondents their understanding of the link between food production, distribution and the regional economy had increased substantially over the past few years, whilst 34.4% had increased their understanding somewhat. This gives a significant 74.4% identifying an increase in understanding

Thinking about the whole food chain...How has your understanding of the link between food production, distribution and the regional economy changed over the past few years?



Whilst no firm conclusions can be made as to whether any or all of the above changes were or were not in part a result of the Local Food Futures project, it shows a significant change occurring in the time that the project was running. This result is in keeping with increasing global and national movements towards food resilience and local food.

Outcome 3: Increased community skills around local food

The key focus area to deliver this outcome was the development of the two community gardens and the running of hands on skills based workshops at the gardens.

Datasets for the evaluation of this outcome include workshop surveys, interviews with participants and key players and the online community survey.

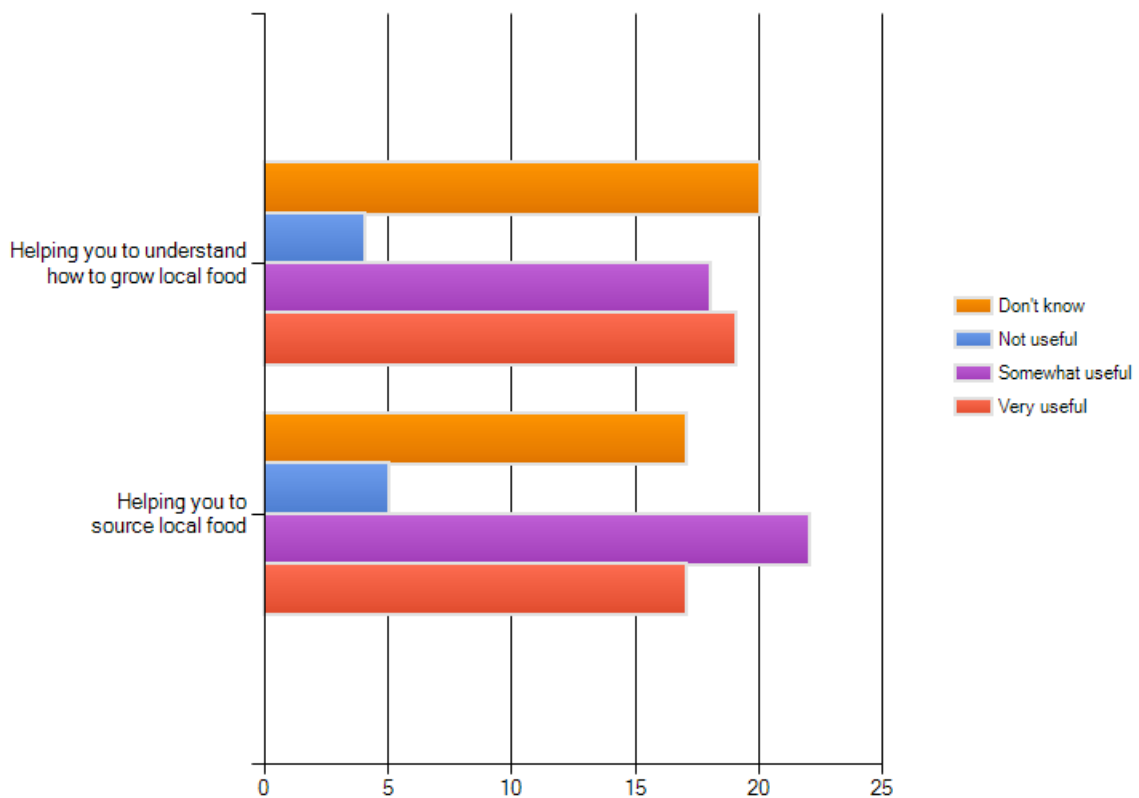
Evaluation surveys undertaken at the various workshops held at the community gardens identified that 96% of participants indicated that they had

increased their skills whilst 95% had increased their knowledge, around the production of food.

Of those who had completed the online community survey and had attended one or more activities run by the LFA, the most useful for helping people to improve their practices was identified as being attending a workshop at the Coffs Community Garden. This confirms the learning by doing approach and highlights one of the main objectives of the development of the community gardens, being learning spaces for people to meet, share, gain skills and knowledge about food production and sustainable living.

The online survey also indicated that 60% of those who attended LFA activities felt that they had increased their understanding of how to grow food.

Thinking about the activities of the Local Food Alliance how useful have you found them in...



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The survey also identified a 21.9% increase from 2010 to 2012 in those respondents who have a functioning vegetable garden, giving an indication of an increasing skill set within the community around food growing.

Interviews with the youth who are involved with the “Food4LYF” program at the Bellinghen Community Garden, in particular, gave testament to the value of the community gardens in increasing hands-on skills around food production. The students highlight the value of experiential learning as central to increasing skills. The interviews also tell us a little about the reach that the program has had into the wider community via parents and friends.

“it was much funner (sic) once we got to do cooking and learnt how to do things and also took things home and cooked it for dinner with my family and they were all excited about it and they learnt lots of things too.”

“I’ve definitely learned a lot more about seed collecting mostly and planting seed and growing little plants, and the whole process. The full circle. Getting the soil good and knowing its all interconnected, it’s just a big circle. Like when something dies we put it in the compost and it goes back into the soil and we plant stuff with that. I thought that was pretty impressive.”

“Because you learn how it grows and where it comes from and stuff and it’s good to eat stuff you know where it’s come from. I think it’s better than buying the vegetables in the shop from China as well and we can just grow them and they aren’t grown with chemicals and they aren’t genetically modified to be ripe through the year and just eat what’s good.”

I think it’s helping the school because its’ not just text books and its more about learning what’s outside.

It’s changed my perception on high school, it was heaps like kinda bogan and then to have something that’s not so.. is good

Well I planted the orange trees along O’Connell Park, and that was really good. We should do more of that kind of thing because that’s like planning for the future.

Outcome 4: Increased backyard biodiversity

Whilst the ultimate outcome in the outcomes hierarchy identifies increased backyard biodiversity, other environmental outcomes have also been assessed as part of this evaluation, including water and waste conservation outcomes.

Increasing backyard biodiversity was targeted through a series of activities including 9 Permablitzes and the development of the two community gardens.

Both community gardens have been developed on what were previously open grassed areas. In the case of the Coffs Garden the area was compacted clay soil. Bellinghen Community Garden covers an area of 800m² and Coffs Community Garden covers

an area of 1.25acres. Plant audits carried out by the two community garden associations highlighted the following biodiversity increases in the two gardens:

- A total of 80 biodiverse species planted at the Bellinghen Community Gardens
- A total of 135 trees planted at the Coffs Community Garden site including 16 native tree species and 119 species of fruit trees. Ten endemic species of reeds and grasses planted 64 varieties of vegetables and 6 species of green manure.

9 Permablitzes were undertaken as part of the project, with the planting out of a total of over 1000m² of previously grassed areas, with a range of vegetable and fruit species.

Whilst audits have not been carried out of insect and animal species it is clear that the significant increase in plant biodiversity will have a localised effect on insect and bird biodiversity. Bellinghen garden also incorporated a frog pond in to their garden whilst Coffs regional community garden rehabilitated a stormwater drainage that runs through the garden, with native endemic plant species and infrastructure works to aid water flow. Anecdotal evidence suggests that frogs have already taken up residence, in the newly rehabilitated creek line.



Water conservation

Until recently the Coffs Community Garden had no piped water to the site. All their water has been drawn from two small (1000l) water tanks and the rehabilitated creek line. The garden has now installed a 70,000 litre water tank which captures water from a neighbour’s roof. A further tank will be installed once the education space construction is completed. The garden aims to highlight the use of water conservation measures by the use of water tanks and low water use planting techniques such as mulching.

The Bellingen garden has collected water via a 70,000l tank located in the adjacent school agricultural plot as well as bore water. No piped town water is used on the garden.

Waste

The Coffs garden have built 14 large compost piles using donated waste manures and discarded plant materials. This 28 metres cubed of waste has been converted into rich organic matter for use on site. Two bathtub worm farms consume approximately 10kgs of food scraps each week.

The Bellingen garden has also set up a worm farm that is fed with local food waste. They have also set up large composting systems to compost garden and high school waste. The garden has had an estimated 250 metres cubed of inputs which have been composted on site to produce organic matter for the garden.

Outcome 5: Integration of local food production in Council policies and planning

Local food production has been integrated into a number of Council policies and plans. These have been across both local government areas involved in the grant funded project and include the following:

1. Amendment to Bellingen Shire DCP 2012

Insertion of requirements for landscaping of residential development, in particular, clauses 9.6.2 (single dwellings) and (.6.3 (Multiple dwellings) which seek to encourage fruit and vegetable growing.



Extract from Bellingen Shire DCP 2010

Single Dwellings

The following solutions are considered “deemed to comply” outcomes for this provision.

- The planting of two (2) x 25 litre fruit trees, or
- The planting of four (4) x 5 litre locally occurring native shrubs, or
- The construction of a raised garden bed of 10 sq.m area for the purpose of fruit and vegetable or herb growing in accordance with Appendix 9.1 of this DCP.

Multiple Dwellings

Note: Council will look favourably upon any proposal to consolidate landscaped area into a single garden area that can be used collectively by residents for the purpose of growing their own fruit and vegetables

2. Coffs Harbour City Council Draft Community Gardens Policy and Guidelines

A Draft Community Gardens Policy has been developed with a set of clear guidelines for the community. These guidelines are currently being expanded to include edible landscapes (verge gardens and fruit trees on public open space).

3. Community Strategic Plans

Both CHCC and BSC have Community Strategic Plans which have objectives around local food production. These plans were developed during the period of the Local Food Futures project and whilst no direct link can be measured, the increased awareness around local food and its value to the community due to the Local Food Futures project is likely to have had some effect on the consultation for the community strategic planning. In both council areas the issue of local food was extremely high on the agenda during consultation with local communities.

The objectives outlined in the community strategic plans are as follows:

- CHCC: Promote and support a local food system
- BSC: Local food growing, sharing and education initiatives are supported and developed;
- Alternative farming system are employed with examples including cooperative farming and Landshare;
- Farming practices are sustainable

4. Council Delivery Plans

Bellingen Shire Council has the following local food actions embedded within their 4 year Delivery Plan

- Partner in the Local Food Framework
- Undertake research into best practice local food economies in partnership with the Local Food Alliance

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5. Coffs Harbour City Council Open Space Strategy

The CHCC Open Space Strategy 2012 identifies the creation of community gardens as a legitimate use of public open space. The Strategy identifies an action to develop a community garden policy to enable the development of gardens in partnership with local communities. The Local Food Futures project team were included in the consultation in the preparation of this strategy.

There is a still a way to go to ensure that Council planning processes include consideration of local food, however the above is a good start and the Local Food Alliance will continue to work in this area to drive policy and planning changes to encourage local food considerations.

Unexpected outcomes

The project has had a whole range of unexpected outcomes. These are the outcomes that have been achieved that were not envisaged at the start of the project and that were not included in the Business Plan. Many of these relate to networks and relationships that have been formed as a result of the Local Food Futures project and the Local Food Alliance. These include:

- Regular local food articles in the local Coffs Coast Advocate newspaper by an LFA member
- Bellingen Community Garden Aquaponics project
- Bellingen Council 2011 Heart Foundation State & National Healthy Communities Award www.heartfoundation.org.au
- Show us ya Dish events at the Growers Markets
- Bellingen Edible Streetscapes
- Coffs Food Inc film night
- Schools annual scarecrow competition initiated (going into its 3rd year)
- International composting awareness week activities
- Coffs Growers Markets healthy eating projects
- Woolgoolga Community Garden
- Outreach projects to many local schools by members of the CRCGA including assistance in the setting up of many school gardens
- Coffs Edible Landscapes project
- Bellingen High School Youth Environment Council formed

Some of the members of the Local Food Alliance have also received additional funding for other projects from other sources, resulting from their participation in the Local Food Futures grant. This shows the huge value adding and capacity building opportunities that these types of grants bring to regional communities such as the Coffs Coast. Examples from this project include:

- Mid North Coast Local Health District funding to undertake a Local Food Assessment - \$8,000
- Waterways Stage 2 project at the Coffs Regional Community Garden, funded by a Landcare Be Natural grant, applied for by the Coffs Regional Gardens Association - \$4,460
- “Food4LYF” youth project funded by Better Futures, developed and run in partnership with the Bellingen Community Garden Association - \$55,000
- Connect Australia Foundation Oasis nursery project – propagating traditional African crops - \$4000
- Coffs Regional Community Gardens Association Waterways project received funding from the CHCC Environmental Levy – \$8,110
- Bellingen Community Garden Association received funding for further activities in the community garden from the Bellingen Environmental Levy – \$9,110
- Youth initiative grant for youth project at Coffs Regional Community Garden from CHCC small grant program - \$500

These projects alone have leveraged an additional \$98,180 in funding.

The above are only a few of the documented “ripple” effects of the Local Food Futures grant. Many more are documented in the reports of the two community garden associations located in appendices A & B of the project’s Final Report.

There will be many more undocumented impacts as the ripples propagate outwards. It is beyond the scope of this evaluation to research in depth the full ripple effects of the project but such a research project could deliver a wealth of information about how one grant funded project brings additional value, both in real dollar terms and in building social capital within communities, leading to ongoing and sustained change for sustainability.



Outcomes hierarchy

Outcome Hierarchy	Evaluation Questions	Performance Indicators	Data Collection	Collected Data
<p>Ultimate Outcome</p> <p>Increased backyard biodiversity</p>	<p>What elements of best practice sustainable living and land management do the gardens implement?</p>	<p>Number of species planted</p> <p>Amount of m2 land converted</p> <p>Volume of stormwater harvested</p> <p>Volume of waste composted</p> <p>Increase in birds/ insects</p>	<p>Community Gardens & permablitzes</p> <p>Garden Coordinators reports</p>	<p>Project Reports - Bellingen Community Garden The Bellingen Community and High School Garden project addressed a range of sustainable living and land management best practices including: (a) 80 plant species planted (b) 800m2 at the Bellingen High School Community Garden; 1000m2at Permablitzes (c) Waste composted; 250m3 (estimate, 200m3 wood chips delivered to garden site; 20m3 biomass delivered to garden site; 2-5m3 food scraps from school delivered to garden site; 20m3 biomass etc utilised in Permablitzes (d) Noticeable increase in biodiversity (bird and insect life) at the High School garden and Permablitz sites</p> <p>Project Reports - Coffs Harbour Community Garden The Coffs Harbour Community Garden project addressed a range of sustainable living and land management best practices including: (a) 16 species of native trees planted; 54 species of fruit trees planted; 65 species of fruit trees stored on site for Spring 2012; 10 endemic species of seeds and grasses planted; 64 plus varieties of vegetables; 6 species of green manures and mulch plants (b) The 1.25 acre lease area was a grassy parkland of compacted clay soil and ten established trees before the project commenced. Approximately half of the area is now used for food production and associated activities such as water capture, seedling production and storage of garden materials. (c) Water tank to capture 70,000L annually - currently empty due to low rainfall. To date all water used on site has come from rehabilitated wetland and two 1,000L tanks. Estimated 5,500L has been captured from this source to date. (d) Fourteen 2mx1mx1m compost heaps built using donated waste manures and discarded plant materials. These 28 cubic metres of waste have been converted into rich organic compost for use on site. Two bathhub worm farms consume 10kg of food scraps per week.</p>

Local Food Futures Project
Part B: Evaluation Report

Outcome Hierarchy	Evaluation Questions	Performance Indicators	Data Collection	Collected Data
<p>Intermediate Outcomes Integration of local food production systems in Council policies and planning.</p>	<p>Is the issue of local food and sustainability integrated in to Council's policies and planning processes?</p>	<p>Number of policies where local food is embedded or referenced.</p>	<p>Name policies & strategies</p>	<p>Yes - measures put in place by the Council's to continue to support local sustainable food systems include: (a) Amendment to Bellingen Shire's DCP 2010 - insertion of requirements for landscaping of residential development, in particular, Clauses 9.6.2 (Single Dwellings) and 9.6.3 (Multiple Dwellings) which seek to encourage fruit and vegetable growing. (b) Development of DRAFT Coffs Harbour City Council Community Garden Policy. (c) Both Coffs Harbour City Council's and Bellingen Shire Council's Community Strategic Plans include local food production as a clear objective and the communities were vocal in their support for local food. (d) Coffs Harbour City Council Open Space Strategy (e) Delivery Plans</p>
<p>Increased awareness of the value and availability of local food.</p>	<p>Have we increased awareness of the availability of local food?</p>	<p>Number of individuals reached by communication/dissemination/activities and media generated.</p>	<p>Media articles, events etc. Online Community Survey</p>	<p>Yes - we have increased awareness of the availability of local food with 88.9% (online community survey) reporting they have changed where they buy fruit and vegetables in the past two years to favour local food supply. Additionally (online community survey) in 2010 1.6% bought all their fruit and veg at the Grower's Market, this has increased to 6.6% in 2012. Those buying all their fruit and veg in a shop/supermarket has fallen from 28% in 2010 to 4.9% in 2012. 64% of online survey respondents also reported that attending a LFA event/activity helped them to source local food.</p> <p>Project Management Team Number of individuals reached through events hosted by the LFA ("minus Community Garden events") = 2730 Number of individuals reached by print communications (newspapers*) = 83,654 Number of individuals reached via web based communications (Website, Facebook, Enewsletter) = 967</p> <p>Project Reports - Bellingen Community Garden Number of individuals reached through events (workshops, working bees, gatherings, school students) = 650 Number of individuals reached by print communications = 500 Number of individuals reached via web based communications (Facebook, newsletter) = 302</p> <p>Project Reports - Coffs Harbour Community Garden Number of individuals reached through events (workshops) = 357 Number of individuals reached via web based communications (Facebook, newsletter) = 742</p> <p>Event Surveys: At two speaker events in 2012, 71% of attendees recording that they had enhanced their knowledge of local food and would like to be more involved in Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance (joined the mailing list).</p> <p>*Newspaper Articles: Total of 55 newspaper articles were published throughout the project, with a combined circulation of 83,654 (Coffs Coast Advocate, Coffs Coast Independent, Coffs Coast Focus Magazine, Bellingen Courier, Sun). Including articles by Bellingen Community and High School Garden Team (8 columns and 5 articles); Coffs Regional Community Garden Team (14 articles); project Management Team (28 articles)</p>
	<p>Do individuals have a better understanding of the benefits of consuming locally produced food?</p>	<p>Number of individuals reached by communication/dissemination/awareness campaign.</p>	<p>Evaluation forms Interviews with Bello High School garden</p>	<p>Yes - individuals have a better understanding of the benefits of consuming locally produced food with 98.1% (online community survey) reporting that they have changed where they source local food from in order to support the local economy. 63% have changed due to environmental concerns; and 16.7% have changed due to the cost of local food. Additionally 67.2% stated that obtaining local food is as important as the cost of the food. While 25% stated obtaining local food is more important regardless of the cost.</p> <p>Project Management Team 3737 individuals were reached through events hosted by the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance. Example numbers of individuals reached through projects include: 457 individuals reached through workshops held at the two community garden sites; 360 attendees at the two Local Food Film Festivals (35% of survey respondents reporting that they engaged in discussions with speakers and requested more speakers in order to promote more discussion around local food availability and benefits); 300+ attendees at the two Show Us Ya Dish cooking demonstrations at the Grower's Market.</p> <p>Project Interviews High School Garden (student): Why is it important to grow your own food? "Because you learn how it grows and where it comes from and stuff and it's good to eat stuff you know where it's come from. I think it's better than buying the vegetables in the shop....we can just grow them and they aren't grown with chemicals and they aren't genetically modified to be ripe through the year and just eat what's good".</p>

Outcome Hierarchy	Evaluation Questions	Performance Indicators	Data Collection	Collected Data
<p>Intermediate Outcomes</p> <p>Increased skills in food production.</p>	<p>Do individuals have an increased knowledge of how to produce food?</p>	<p>Number of workshops/training days inc. school workshops, permabilizes.</p> <p>Change in skill and knowledge levels.</p>	<p>Garden Coordinators final reports</p> <p>Costa workshops evaluation forms</p> <p>Community Online Survey</p> <p>Interviews with Bellingen H/S students</p>	<p>Yes - a number of specialised workshops themed around 'sustainable food production' were held through the duration of the project, these included: workshops held at the two community gardens, the Eden @ Home course run by the North Coast Local Health District, and workshops run by Costa Georgiadis for schools and community.</p> <p>Project Management Team Costa Georgiadis was engaged as part of the Sustainable Living Festival in 2011, in partnership with the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance. Costa ran gardening demonstrations at 4 local primary schools attended by 450 students; a workshop at the Coffs Harbour Community Garden attended by 36 community members; and engaged with 500 individuals at the Festival's main day the 'Botanica Spring Fair'.</p> <p>Project Reports - Bellingen Community Garden 10 workshops were held with a total of 80 participants; 9 permabilizes were conducted with 164 participants; and 20 workshops were held specifically for the Bellingen High School students.</p> <p>Project Reports - Coffs Harbour Community Garden 17 workshops held on site with a total of 357 participants. A large majority of participants indicated that they left the workshops with new skills (86%) and knowledge (95%).</p> <p>Online Community Survey There was a 21.9% increase from 2010 to 2012, in respondents having a functioning produce garden. 5.1% increase from 2010 to 2012, in respondents growing most of their food in their own gardens. 13.5% increase from 2010 to 2012, in respondents growing some of their food in their gardens and buying some of their food at the shops.</p>
<p>Active partnerships around local food.</p>	<p>What skills have project participants gained?</p>	<p>Types and range of skills acquired.</p>	<p>Permabilizes</p> <p>Community Gardens workshop evaluation forms</p> <p>Focus group with Project committee</p> <p>Interviews with Bellingen H/S students</p>	<p>A large majority of workshop participants at the two community gardens indicated that they left the workshops with new skills (86%) and knowledge (95%).</p> <p>Project Reports - Bellingen Community Garden Types and range of skills acquired at the 10 workshops hosted by the Bellingen Community Garden included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No dig garden beds • Worm-farming • Compost-making & utilising available waste-streams • Seed saving • Food forest design and construction • Permaculture principles • Pizza oven construction • Decision-making skills • Social leadership skills • Ecological and sustainability literacy • Cooking skills – seasonal fresh produce, using abundance of a particular harvest </p> <p>Project Reports - Coffs Harbour Community Garden Skills acquired at the 17 workshops hosted by the Coffs Harbour Community Garden included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction • Water conservation • Waste recycling • Developing gardens for the home • Food forests • Bush Regeneration </p>
<p>Active partnerships around local food.</p>	<p>How many partners are actively partaking in local food activities? What are they doing? Were there any unexpected partnerships formed?</p>	<p>Number of partnerships/networks formed and who? Activities run by partners?</p>	<p>Steering Committee</p> <p>Evaluation meeting (18/19 July)</p> <p>Powerpoint of LFA activities</p>	<p>A total of 11 partnerships/networks were formed throughout the project. Partnerships formed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Food Alliance (LFA) partnership - Overseeing of the Local Food Futures grant project, development of the Local Food Framework 2010 - 2020 • Partnership developed between LFA members - Local Food Systems Assessment • The Advocate newspaper and LFA partner - Regular local food articles in the Advocate newspaper • Partnership developed between LFA members - Coffs Growers Market Rapid Assessment • Bellingen Community Garden Association and Bellingen EYE - "Food for Life" youth project • Bellingen Community Garden Association and Bellingen High School - Aquaponics project • Coffs Growers Markets and LFA - Many awareness raising activities held at the Growers Markets • LFA and Nambucca Local Food Network - Local Food Film Festival, other local food networking activities/forums • Bellingen Council and BCGA (both LFA partner members) - Presentation to PIA Regional Branch 25 May 2012 • Partnership developed between LFA partner members - Coffs Growers Markets healthy eating projects

Local Food Futures Project
Part B: Evaluation Report

Outcome Hierarchy	Evaluation Questions	Performance Indicators	Data Collection	Collected Data
<p>Immediate Outcomes Community Gardens developed</p>	<p>Have additional community gardens been established throughout the region?</p>	<p>Number of community gardens established Number of individuals involved in community gardens. Range of participants.</p>	<p>Community Garden Membership lists Garden Coordinators Final reports</p>	<p>Yes - a total of 11 community gardens have been established throughout the duration of the project, this includes the two 'major' community gardens at Bellingen and Coffs Harbour, in addition to 9 permablitz gardens established at schools and community centres.</p> <p>Project Reports - Bellingen Community Garden (a) High school community garden and 9 permablitz gardens at schools and community centres. (b) Around 650 people engaged throughout the project, with approximately 40 individuals involved on a regular basis across the range of gardens established. (c) Range of Participants included: • Disadvantaged / at risk youth • Indigenous youth • Ethnic minorities, including newly arrived refugees • Disabled people (participation facilitated by raised beds) • Children (from Primary Schools) • Older people (participation facilitated by raised beds)</p> <p>Project Reports - Coffs Harbour Community Garden (a) Combine Street Reserve Community Garden (established) and the proposed Woolgoolga Community Garden to be auspiced by CRCG. (b) 76 financial memberships including 23 family memberships; total individual members 108. There were 357 recorded attendances at the community garden workshops, or an average of 19 per workshop. Regular Sunday morning working bees attract between 10 and 25 participants. (c) Participants include children and adults 22 – 85 years old. There are currently very few participants between the ages of 13 and 21 years. 28 concession memberships have been taken out and a number of individuals from lower socio economic backgrounds have been provided freemembership to encourage access and equity.</p>
<p>Increased number of Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance members.</p>	<p>What are the levels and types of participation in established community gardens? Has LFA gained members?</p>	<p>Number and themes of workshops Number of participants at workshops. LFA membership (FB, Ning)</p>	<p>Garden Coordinators Final reports Website Numbers Facebook Numbers Online Community Survey</p>	<p>Throughout the duration of the project a total of 27 workshops were hosted by the two community gardens (Bellingen and Coffs Harbour) with a total of 457 participants. A further 20 workshops were held for Bellingen High School students.</p> <p>Yes - the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance has increased its numbers dramatically since the beginning of the project. The Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance currently has 119 registered members on the website (www.coffscostlocalfood.com.au); 669 individuals engaged on the Alliance Facebook site and 179 individuals registered on the email database.</p> <p>Community Online Survey: 78.2% of survey respondents reported having heard of the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance.</p>

Outcome Hierarchy	Evaluation Questions	Performance Indicators	Data Collection	Collected Data
<p>Immediate Outcomes</p> <p>LFA Framework developed</p>	<p>Has the LFA framework been developed?</p> <p>How many projects have been undertaken throughout this project?</p>	<p>The LFA Framework</p> <p>Number of projects activities</p> <p>Number and diversity of attendees</p> <p>Schedule C</p>	<p>Strategic Response Projects</p> <p>Consumer Awareness and Education projects</p> <p>Showcasing projects</p>	<p>Yes - the Coffs Coast Local Food Framework 2010 - 2020 has been developed and is available on the Alliance's website www.coffscastlocalfood.com.au</p> <p>A total of 18 projects have been undertaken throughout the duration of the project these are listed below under three key focus areas:</p> <p>Strategic Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffs Coast Local Food Framework - 60 forum attendees & 2,000+ brochures distributed • Coffs Council Community Garden Policy and Guidelines • Bellingen Council DCP amendments <p>Consumer Awareness and Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival (Short Film Competition - 6 entries in its inaugural year) - 350 attendees over 2 years • Permeabiliz - 9 permeabilizes with 164 participants • Eden at Home Project - 2 courses ran with 20 participants • Coffs Coast Local Food Directory - 14 local registrations • Farm Gate Trail & Seasonal Calendar - 1,200 Coffs Coast Harvest Guides published & distributed, 80 attendees at Harvest Spring Dinner • Development of LFA resources - banners, flyers, magnets, website, facebook site • Local food speaker program - 8 speaker events with a total of 1301 attendees, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 attendees at Robert Peikin, Community Supported Agriculture (Food Connect); • 35 attendees at Russ Grayson, Community Gardens; 20 attendees at Phil Dudman, Landshare Australia; • 986 people engaged by Costa Georgiada at Sustainable Living Festival 2011; 50 attendees at Kristen Larsen (SLF); • 60 attendees at Nicole Foss; 50 attendees at Simon Cunich (Growing Change) • Nutrition! Cooking Workshops (Show Us Ya Dish) - 300+ attendees • Edible Streetscapes (Bellingen & Coffs Harbour) - 30 students attended the Bellingen planting day, 150 attendees at Bellingen Edible Streetscapes launch, 30 attendees at the Coffs Harbour event. • Local Film Nights - 200 attendees in Coffs Harbour and Bellingen • Schools Scarecrow Competition - 38 school entries • Bellofoodbox Marketing • Food for Life! youth local food project - 25 high school students engaged <p>Showcasing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Garden in Bellingen - 650 people engaged during the project • Community Garden in Coffs Harbour - 357 workshop participants, 473 registered for the newsletter



Coffs Coast

Local Food Alliance

promoting resilient communities through local food

www.coffscoastlocalfood.com.au

Coffs Coast Local Food Framework *2010 - 2020*

JULY 2010



This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust

Executive Summary

The *Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance* is one of many initiatives around New South Wales, Australia and internationally in which people from diverse points in the food system have come together to discuss the necessity for change. We believe that food and agriculture must be reconceptualised as a vital social and economic system in its own right. We aim to plan for change and to implement it. This Framework constitutes an essential part of this process.



The vision we have is of the Coffs Coast region as a showcase sustainable local food economy that supports and sustains healthy, connected, strong and resilient communities who actively care for each other and their environment.

Our mission is to promote and support the development of a strong local food economy based on sustainable agricultural practices so that all residents of the Coffs Coast have equitable access to affordable, fresh, healthy food into the future.

Within this document we explore what the drivers for change are, and some of the scenarios that can reasonably be anticipated depending on various levels of action or inaction. We look to our own food system as it currently stands, based on our existing levels of knowledge. We describe, based on the perceptions of food system workers and community members, its existing strengths and weaknesses. Having regard to practice elsewhere, we identify key gaps in our local and regional food system.

This Framework identifies eight strategic areas for priority action:

- **Policy changes;**
- **Food alliances;**
- **Leadership development;**
- **Nurturing knowledge and skills;**
- **New farming and food supply chain practices;**
- **Improved infrastructure for local producers;**
- **Community education and awareness-raising; and**
- **Strengthening community actions.**



Recognising that a change in thinking and attitudes is the key to changes in practice, at this early stage we are concentrating our efforts on **education and awareness-raising**. The NSW Environmental Trust-funded Local Food Futures Project addresses this need through several of its components. These include: the development and promotion of this Framework; the creation and distribution of a local seasonal calendar and food directory; showcasing the Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival in three venues across the region; and developing an increased network of backyard vegetable gardens. Other projects that are high on the priority list - such as a Food Systems Assessment and the resourcing of a Local Food/Small Farms Hub - will require additional resourcing and network-building.

We also want to put in place practical and visible infrastructure and ongoing educational initiatives that can become lasting centres for social learning and community building. This is why the establishment of community gardens is the centrepiece of the Local Food Futures Project.



As our regional 'Community of Interest' demonstrates, we are seeking to maintain an open dialogue with representatives from numerous institutions and businesses. We are constantly reaching out to other groups and institutions, seeking to expand and strengthen our Alliance and develop new partnerships. We have established firm links with the Sydney Food Fairness Alliance and the Adelaide 'Plains to Plate' convergence. We are also part of a national movement to establish Community-Shared Agriculture social enterprises, based on the Food Connect model pioneered by Robert Pekin and his colleagues in Brisbane.

Through the process of engagement used to develop this Framework, we have observed the desire for change as well as the will and capacity locally to bring it about. Harnessing these energies to construct a resilient and just local food system is the contribution we can make for this and future generations. We invite you to join us.



About this Document

What is the Purpose of the Framework?

The Coffs Coast Local Food Framework aims to support the development of a sustainable local food economy for our region.

The development of the framework aims to:

- generate awareness about the issues surrounding local food
- create interest in, and enthusiasm for, participation
- identify a 'road map' for action
- show commitment from Local Government, State agencies and Community groups
- allow for other key stakeholders to identify how they might contribute, and
- build partnerships and networks around our mission and objectives

Who is our target audience?

The audiences we considered when developing the Framework cover a wide spectrum. This is an indication of the inter-connectedness of the issues and the whole of community approach required to create a sustainable local food economy.

We hope the following audiences will consider the role they play in creating a future for Coffs Coast Local Food:

- Community groups
- Local farmers, growers and their representative organisations
- Education and training organisations
- Funding bodies
- Government agencies (State, National)
- Individual community members
- Local businesses – food wholesalers, retailers, restaurants and cafes
- Local Councils (Councillors and staff)
- Non-Government organisations
- Organisations in the food supply chain

The Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance

What is the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance?

In response to the growing pressures of climate change, peak-oil and other emerging challenges for local, national and global food systems, a group of like-minded people first met in mid-2008 to discuss how to bring more fresh local produce to more peoples' plates in the Coffs Coast area. Having regard to processes underway elsewhere in NSW, Australia and internationally, this group identified an opportunity to constitute a Local Food Alliance (LFA) that could articulate pathways for engagement and action with the aim of building a strong, sustainable and resilient local food system. With support from the Urban Sustainability Programme of the NSW Environmental Trust, a *Steering Group* was formed with representatives from:

- Bellingen Community Gardens Association (BCGA)
- Bellingen Shire Council (BSC)
- Bellingen Landcare (BL)
- Coffs Harbour City Council (CHCC)
- Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare (CHRL)
- Coffs Region Community Gardens Association (CRCGA)
- Coffs Region Organic Producers Organisation (CROPO)
- North Coast Area Health Service (NCAHS)

Who developed this framework?

In developing this Framework, the *LFA Steering Group* engaged a wide range of stakeholders through a variety of processes:

- Food Futures Forums were held in Coffs Harbour and Bellingen in March 2009.
- The draft Framework was released for public distribution in October 2009.
- An online survey was open to the public as a way of collecting feedback .
- From February to May 2010, a series of presentations about the Framework and its strategic areas for action were made to key stakeholders, including NSW TAFE Sustainability Educators, local farmers and growers including the Coffs Harbour branch of the NSW Farmers Association and the Coffs Harbour Growers Market, and health and nutrition professionals from NCAHS. Over 100 copies of the Framework were distributed at these presentations.

Overall, the response to the vision and need for strategic action to work towards a strong, sustainable and resilient local food economy has been overwhelmingly positive. The results of all these forms of consultation have been incorporated into the current Framework.

While this document is now being presented in its 'final' version, the Framework is intended to be a dynamically 'living' document whose success will be determined by the participation of stakeholders in constructing our region's food system. Ultimately this includes everyone who lives and works in the Coffs Coast. We expect this participation to increase and expand as the momentum and commitment to a regional food economy strengthens.

What is Our Vision?

The Coffs Coast region has a showcase sustainable local food economy that supports and sustains healthy, connected, strong and resilient communities who actively care for each other and their environment.

What is Our Mission?

We will promote and support the development of a strong local food economy based on sustainable agricultural practices so that all residents of the Coffs Coast have equitable access to affordable, fresh, healthy food into the future. We will value and utilise local knowledge.

What are Our Principles?

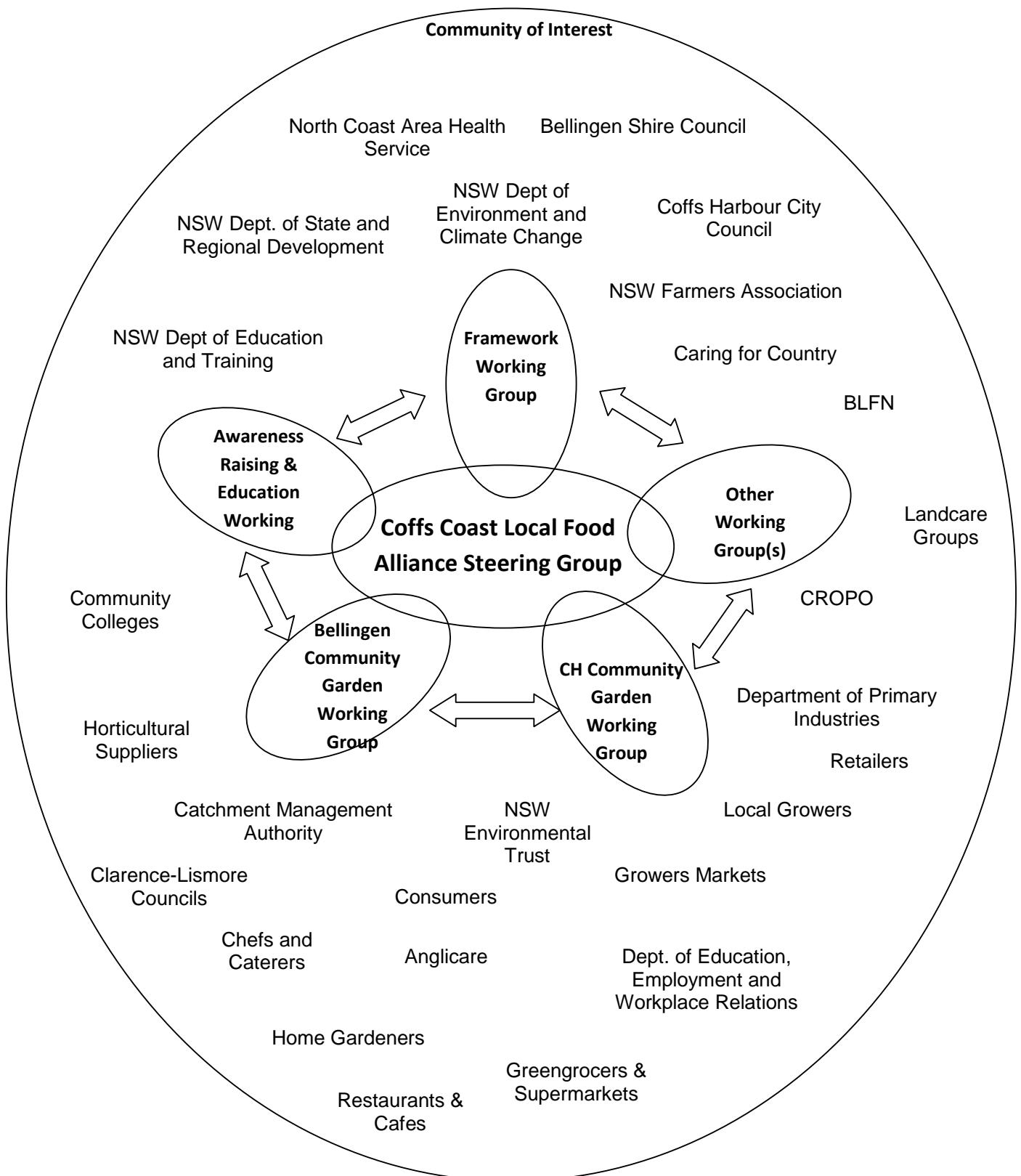
- We believe in the rights of all people to have access to affordable, fresh and healthy food
- We believe that access to fresh local food is a way of improving the health and wellbeing of communities
- We believe that a strong local food economy supports sustainable livelihoods through job and wealth creation within the community
- We support sustainable agricultural practices as being paramount to the long-term protection of our environment and health
- We believe that reconnecting ourselves with our food helps to reconnect ourselves to the environment and to each other and moves us towards a more sustainable future
- We value diversity, creativity and innovation in what we do
- We support grass roots movements that share our vision
- We value and utilize local knowledge
- We believe in the principles of social justice, equality and sustainability

Our Objectives

- To undertake education and awareness raising activities that promote actions by both consumers and producers around local food systems
- To build partnerships and network with other local, national and international organisations that have similar missions and objectives, in order to build and share knowledge and information
- To undertake and support grass roots initiatives that further our vision and mission
- To seek ongoing funding for achievement of our mission
- To develop a resource and information base around local food
- To undertake research into best practice in local food economies

What is Our Structure?

The Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance is made up of a *Steering Group* to drive framework development and initiate actions as well as members of the *Community of Interest* who are interested in supporting the vision. *Working Groups* will be formed and disbanded as required to deliver projects and actions identified through the Framework.



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Why do we need a local food system?

Drivers for Change

There are a number of significant drivers for change in the Coffs Coast local food system. Whilst they represent challenges we must face now and in the future, they also indicate potential opportunities to capitalise on if we adapt and prepare ourselves adequately.

Securing Dignified Livelihoods

Consumers have become accustomed to very cheap food, the price of which does not reflect the true costs associated with its production. Due to the market share and bargaining power of the two major supermarkets, the majority of food sold in Australia does not allow a sufficient return to food producers' pockets to provide for an adequate 'repairs and maintenance' or reinvestment budget¹.

Moreover, as the costs of production in conventional agriculture have increased with rising prices of inputs and as the market share of the two big supermarket chains has grown, farmers and growers find themselves in a 'cost-price squeeze' that makes it difficult to earn a dignified living from the land without incurring very substantial debt and/or relying heavily on off-farm income². The relentless logic of economies of scale means that the most profitable farms are also the largest broadacre farms which are 'unambiguously internationally competitive'.³ This is a major reason why the numbers of farmers nationally has declined by over 25% in the last 25 years, while the average farm size has increased.⁴

However in our region, geographical and demographic factors mean that our challenge is not so much to struggle with the implications of a shrinking number of larger farms, but rather how to ensure that a relatively large number of small farms can be viable.

The Coffs Coast has many new landholders coming to the region seeking alternative lifestyles; with minimal experience in farm management, many take up small land holdings. This brings its own set of challenges and opportunities to make these ventures viable in the long-term. **However, having regard to the factors mentioned below, it is likely that these smaller-scale farms will represent the most viable future for sustainable and resilient farming.**

'The key issue for farmers [in the Coffs Coast] is financial – how do we make small farms financially viable? 90% of the farmers on this coast depend on off-farm income in order to get by, and many are in debt. Many farmers are also struggling under the burdens of environmental pressures, with many new regulations coming from the state and the councils. I see a lot of potential in the CSA [community-shared agriculture] model.'

Michael Burt, NSW Farmers Association

Climate Change

Climate change will have significant ramifications for agricultural production in the future, with predicted strong warming and drying trends, more variable and extreme weather conditions and less reliable seasons. The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics has concluded that Australia is one of the countries that will be most affected by climate change, and that agriculture will be among the most affected sectors of the Australian economy⁵. The trends are already evident with the prolonged drought in South-Eastern Australia⁶.

There are two key ways of responding to climate change: adapting to the unavoidable changes; and trying to reduce the severity of their impacts through mitigation measures, which include emissions abatement and sequestration. The Agriculture sector has a significant role to play in both of these areas.

Mitigation choices that landowners can make include the adoption of agro-ecological principles such as farm multi-functionality, polycultures and forest conservation. These measures help preserve soil carbon levels, enrich micro-organic soil life and humus, and enhance biodiversity⁷.

On farm adaptation measures will also be required together with systemic changes in policies, infrastructure, education and training, research and innovation across the whole food supply chain.

Environment

Coffs Coast has many unique aquatic and terrestrial environments making it a region of high biodiversity. Key threats to the very biodiversity that attract visitors and residents to the region are habitat loss and fragmentation due to pressures from urban development, infrastructure and agriculture.

Farming practices – including clearing of land, cultivation, irrigation, fertilisation and cropping - impact on the ecological systems in which they operate. Some land management practices of our farmers can also indirectly impact on the environment in a range of other ways including the introduction of pests and weeds, downstream impacts of agricultural water run-off and soil loss and degradation.

‘Being able to produce well also means understanding the soils and the ecosystems, working with the environment, not against it. There are good courses on soils and biological farming, e.g. TAFE courses. The Centre for Small-Scale Farming would be a good idea if it could make these sorts of courses more widely available. There are some initiatives towards holistic farm management; DPI has run a good course of farming for climate change.’

Dale, Goat & Pig Farmer, Bowraville

Water

Irrigated and dry-land agriculture is by far the biggest consumer of fresh water in Australia, accounting for nearly two-thirds of total consumption of just under 19,000 gegalitres⁸. Because of the amount of water required to produce our food, about half of total household water use is through the food we consume, compared to about 11% used directly in washing, cleaning and gardens.

In coming decades, the Coffs Coast’s water security may be placed under pressure due to the greater frequency of weather extremes. While much of Australia is predicted to experience an increased incidence of drought, the Coffs Coast is likely to receive increased rainfall. **On the one hand, this may create significant opportunities in terms of food and agricultural production for the region, while on the other, more extreme weather events are predicted, including a higher frequency of extreme flooding events and storms⁹.** This would pose considerable challenges for the region's farmers.

Peak Oil and Energy

Upward pressure on fuel pricing in Australia is being driven by diminishing world oil reserves, increasing demand, and the emergence of carbon pricing¹⁰. Many experts predict that there will be increasing frequency and severity of price spikes, and long term escalation in costs of fuel and derivatives of crude oil¹¹. The introduction of some form of mitigation measures to tackle climate change – whether it occurs in the form of an emissions trading system, a carbon tax or some other form of carbon pricing or rationing¹² scheme, will further increase energy prices.

The impacts of such measures on food production and farming will inevitably be an increase in the cost of food for consumers as farmers deal with higher prices of fuel, nutrients, transport and the many other fossil fuel-based inputs on which the food system currently depends¹³. In such a scenario, farming systems that are less dependent on high levels of external inputs of diesel and synthetic fertilisers will become relatively more competitive¹⁴.

Food Miles studies have demonstrated the linkages with climate change mitigation measures in relation to transportation.

“The total distance for all transportation of a [typical weekly] food basket is 70,803 km, equivalent to travelling nearly twice around the circumference of the Earth, or travelling around Australia's coastline three times....If all the food trucks were transporting all food items on the same day, the emissions from this one day of transportation (16, 989 t CO²), is equivalent to 4,247 cars driving for one year.”

Sophie Gaballa and Asha Bee Abraham, Food Miles in Australia: A preliminary study of Melbourne, Victoria (CERES, 2007).

As energy pressures lead to food price increases, especially where food has had to travel long distances, there will be multiple new opportunities for Coffs Coast food producers to play an increasingly important role in the region's food economy.

World Food Demands

The world's population is now approaching 7 billion and is estimated to climb to between 9 and 10 billion around the middle of the 21st century before stabilising and beginning to fall slightly, according to estimates from the United Nations¹⁵. **Everybody needs to be able to feed themselves, but in ways that are both ecologically sustainable and which uphold human dignity and health. With over 1 billion people currently suffering from malnutrition, and equal or greater numbers experiencing diminished enjoyment of life through being overweight or obese, it is beyond any doubt that the current world food system is failing to meet these basic objectives¹⁶.**

Climate change, resource constraints and the ecologically-destructive impacts of large-scale export-oriented agriculture heavily dependent on fossil fuel and chemical inputs present new challenges. Taken together, all this means that the viability of conventional agricultural methods to boost production may be severely reduced in the coming period. The alternative proposal of the widespread commercialisation of genetically-modified crops has provoked considerable concern and opposition amongst large numbers of the general public and the scientific community¹⁷. Further, since this technology still makes farmers dependent on numerous external inputs, such as expensive patented seed and increased applications of chemical fertilisers, there are serious doubts over its viability as an adequate model for a strong, sustainable and resilient local food economy¹⁸.

‘Reliance on resource-extractive industrial agriculture is unsustainable, particularly in the face of worsening climate, energy and water crises; expensive short-term technical fixes – including transgenic crops – do not adequately address the complex challenges of the agricultural sector and often exacerbate social and environmental harms.’

World Agriculture Report, UNEDP, UNFAO, and the World Bank.

Health

For centuries we have been slowly increasing the average life-span, but we appear now to have reached a peak in the improvement of human health. Obesity is a major contributor to reduced quality of life and it is widely accepted that the biggest factors in the rapidly rising levels of obesity (and associated chronic diseases) are diet and nutrition.

The issue here is not one of increased or more sustainable agricultural production, but rather of over-consumption of the wrong sorts of foods. Tackling obesity will require multiple actions such as:

- sustained education to enable people to re-learn the basic components of a healthy diet and how to prepare tasty, nutritious meals¹⁹;
- increased availability of fresh and affordable nutritious produce;
- fostering a new culture where the consumption of such produce becomes the norm;
- acceptance of the food system as being central in the front line of preventative health care²⁰.

The National Preventative Health TaskForce recommended state and federal governments to:

‘Examine and develop systems and subsidies that increase the availability of high-quality fresh food for regional and remote areas, focusing on regional and remote transportation, and increasing the production of high-quality, locally-grown fresh foods that are available to the local community.’

National Preventative Health TaskForce, Technical Paper 1: Obesity in Australia: a need for urgent action. pp113-4.

Overall, reversing the trend of a decrease in consumption of fresh whole foods, fruit and vegetables is key, along with reducing our average red meat consumption²¹. This is especially important for indigenous and low-income Australians, as well as those living in regional and remote rural areas, who are disproportionately affected by obesity-related diseases.

Labour

Our farming populations are in decline as people move off the farm in search of alternative income, or as the farming land is turned into hobby farms or areas of rural residential properties. All around the globe the pressures on the agricultural workforce are increasing. Australia’s ageing population also brings other issues, such as more of the workforce reaching retirement age, loss of skills and the agricultural lifestyle not being attractive for our youth. As at 2009, the average age of the Australian farmer is 58, with small numbers of young farmers wanting to enter the sector²². **There is a need to find ways in which to better support and value the current generation of farmers and farmworkers, as well as create incentives and provide support mechanisms (such as thriving local markets) for the next generation of farmers and horticulturalists.**

In order for the Coffs Coast to respond to the opportunities presented by the changing external landscape it is essential for a nurturing of knowledge and skills in the agricultural sector.

‘Strengthening the human and ecological resilience of agricultural systems improves our capacity to respond to changing environmental and social stresses. Indigenous knowledge and community-based innovations are an invaluable part of the solution.’

World Agricultural Report, UNEDP, UNFAO, and the World Bank.

Land Use

The Mid North Coast’s population growth is predicted to continue to increase in the foreseeable future which means we will need to house approximately an extra 100,000 people by 2031²³. This is putting increased pressure on our previously rural landscape to become residential. Whilst this potential conflict may be eased by good land use planning and urban consolidation to stop the encroachment, there will be increasing tension over land use. **There is a growing need to protect our agricultural lands which will be required more and more into the future.**

Scenarios and Implications

The question remains: what effect will these pressures have on our local food system and indeed the global food supply chain? With so many influencing factors and variables it is impossible for anyone to predict with certainty, but what can be presented is a range of scenarios that we may reasonably expect to play out. In this way we can review the potential scenarios and see which strategies will assist us in dealing with them. The diagram on page 7 illustrates four scenarios which the UK’s Royal Institute of International Affairs used to generate debate and test the UK food systems’ responses to possible changes. It is intended to be illustrative as opposed to predictive, with the scenarios drawn from observable trends in global food demand and supply rather than econometric models.

Our Response – How do we understand the nature of the challenges

When confronted by challenges of this scale and with such potentially serious implications, there are several possible ways of responding. A typical set of psychological responses to Peak Oil, for example, might include denial that it is happening, followed by fear, anxiety and anger²⁴. Equally, acceptance of the reality of Peak Oil and Climate Change can be accompanied by the recognition that these phenomena present tremendous opportunities to work together to remedy many of the destructive patterns of the present in the course of building the foundations for a sustainable future.

This is the way in which the members of the LFA are approaching the task before us. We are realists, and are under no illusions that these challenges will be difficult and testing, perhaps for long periods of time. However we are also optimists, and believe that the hard work of constructing a path to a sustainable and resilient future will bring enormous benefits and multiple rewards for all those who participate in this necessary and vital task.

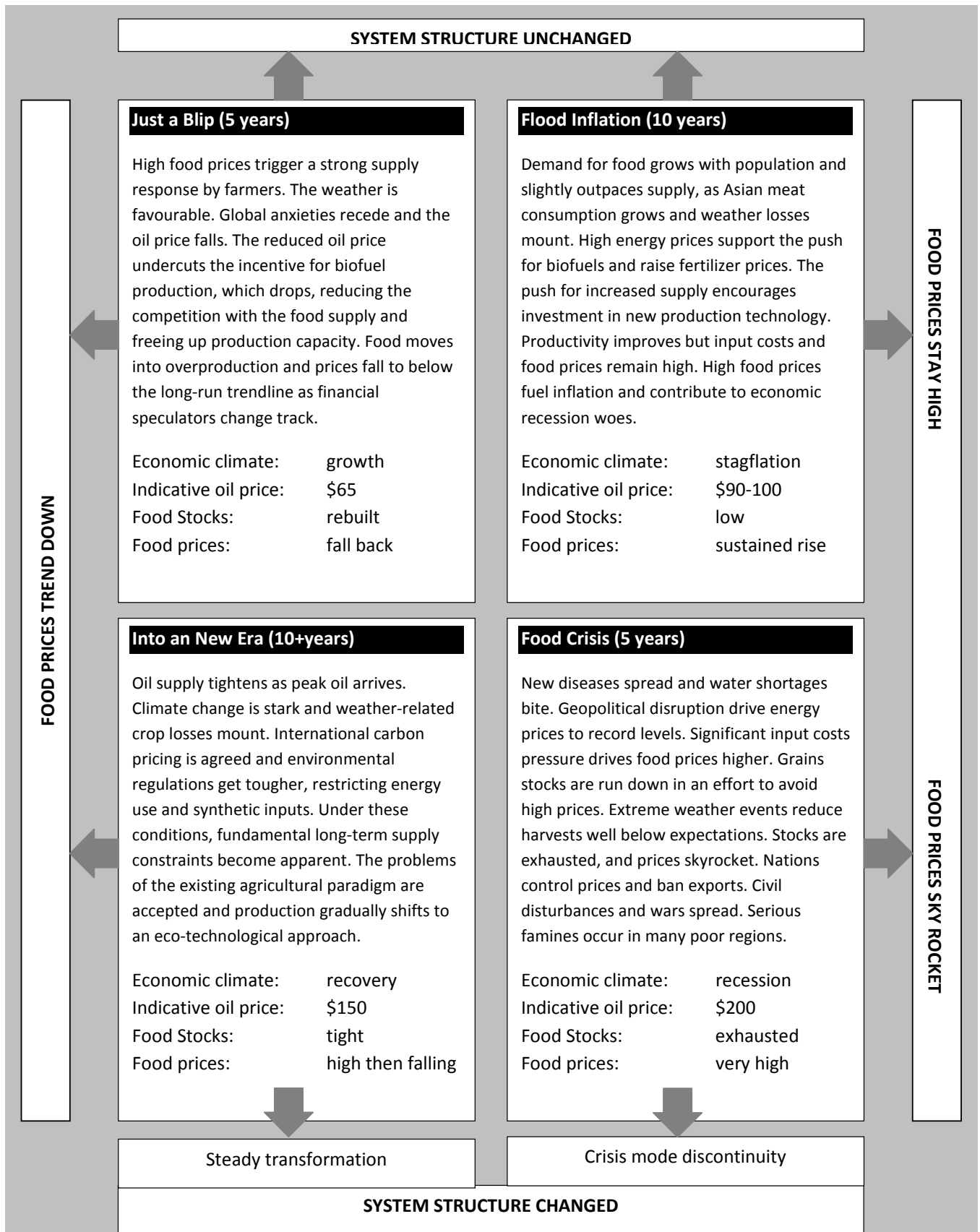
There is a sense at the moment that our towns and cities are being divided into 'rich' and 'poor' eaters – i.e. those who can afford to eat high-priced, highly nutritious certified organic, free-range, biodynamic products, and those who can't afford such produce and opt for the cheapest options, which also tend to be the less nutritious. This is one of the key challenges we face, in my opinion.

Nick Rose, Bellingen Local Food Network

The Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance has identified three main values which will guide our efforts to secure the integrity of our local and regional food system into the future²⁵.

- *Social Justice* – a system that is capable of providing a dignified livelihood to farmers and an increased number of skilled agricultural workers and growers. This signifies that farming and food-growing is once again valued as an integral and vital part of our community, and that the food produced is accessible to all socio-economic classes.
- *Resilience* – a system able to assure longer-term availability in the light of increasing global uncertainties;
- *Sustainability* – a system that can supply safe, healthy food with positive social benefits and low environmental impacts, thus guaranteeing the viability of food production in our region for future generations.

The challenge we have accepted is to reconcile these elements which will require a diverse range of approaches and strategies.



Source: Royal Institute of International Affairs (2009, p.19) *Food Futures: Rethinking UK Strategy*

Local Context

In order to develop a detailed and realistic strategic response it was necessary to answer the following questions:

- **What is our scope for this framework?** Defining the boundaries of time, activities and 'local'.
- **What is the scale of our agricultural industry at present?** A brief overview of the local agricultural industry.
- **What is the local food supply chain?** An exploration of all the elements that make up a food supply chain.
- **Who are the key players in our Local and Regional Food System?** This identifies existing initiatives that support the objectives of the Local Food Alliance so that we know what areas are already covered and what organisations/programs we can develop relationships with and support.
- **What is missing from our Local and Regional Food System?** This identifies other potential initiatives from around Australia or internationally. We can learn from these initiatives and adapt them to suit the Coffs Coast local food system.
- **What are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges for our local area?** A review of our region in this way enables us to develop initiatives that fill in the gaps where we are seen as weak, build on our strengths and capitalise on new opportunities.

What is our scope for this Framework?

There are three types of boundaries that need to be defined for this Framework.

Timeframe

This Framework was developed as part of a NSW Environmental Trust Urban Sustainability Grant awarded to the Coffs Harbour City Council and the Bellingen Shire Council, acting in collaboration with other members of the Local Food Alliance, in December 2008. While the awarding of this grant forms the immediate context for the development of this Framework, the Framework itself will outlast the three—year period of the Grant. The Framework is intended to serve as the principal policy document for food re-localisation and resilience-building over the coming decade and beyond.

Activities

The scope of the actions identified by the stakeholders will be limited to localities in which the stakeholders are active; currently this is the Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Bellingen and Coffs Harbour. We envisage that this will expand to include Nambucca in the near future.

What do we mean by the term ‘local’ in local food?

There are many different definitions of ‘local’ food, all depending upon the view of the consumer or organisation’s purpose.

For local produce markets, local might be defined by the time it takes to get from the farmer to the market. To them, local means that produce and fruit can be harvested and brought to the market within a day of travel. Food that has to travel more than a day to reach the market is out of range of being considered ‘local’.

Another way of defining local is according to geographical areas, such as the local government area (LGA) you live in and extend this out to neighbouring LGAs. This brings with it the question of where do you draw the line. Others might say that state boundaries are more useful, although to those on the borders, such as Tweed, they will obviously have a closer connection to Queensland than to Bega.

A well accepted definition internationally is the “100-mile” limit. Where ‘local’ food is grown within 100 miles (160 kilometres) from a customer’s place of residence. In the U.S.A. a survey conducted by the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture found the 100-mile definition was the most widely-accepted by the general population. Although this seemingly clear-cut definition raises other questions if your reasons for choosing local food also are based on environmental impacts such as reducing your carbon footprint (see **Food Miles** box).

Food Miles is a measure of how far food travels – from paddock to plate – and is an indication of how environmentally-friendly it is. Food freight consumes fuel and energy, and releases greenhouse pollution, affecting the global climate. Generally speaking, the lower the food miles the better choice the product is for the environment. Although, in determining energy consumption and CO₂ emissions the distance travelled is only a part of the picture, and often a small part. The type of transportation used is critical, as is the transport load factor (capacity of carrier and % filled), the type of fuel used and the type of packaging.

One thing to be wary of is that with all popular movements or trends, it is inevitable that certain organisations will try to co-opt the term and concepts for their own profit margins. A recent example of this is where Frito-Lay (owned by PepsiCo) has developed a marketing campaign that is trying to position the USA’s biggest selling brand of potato chips as local food.

This Local Food Framework aims to promote a broader local food movement that values reviving small scale, ecological, place-based and relationship-based food systems.

From this perspective we feel that, rather than defining 'local', it is better to arm people with a series of questions (and start to assist in providing the answers) that will help them choose where, how and what to buy.

Can this produce be grown here? And, is this produce grown here?

If yes, where can I buy the local produce?

Just because certain types of fruit or veg can technically be grown in your area, doesn't mean you can find a local supplier. There may not be an outlet for this produce, or the grower has decided to sell this produce to an alternative market such as Sydney or Brisbane. A seasonal calendar will assist in re-connecting consumers with the concept of seasonal produce, allowing them to choose locally grown produce in the peak of its season and reduce expectations of all-year round availability.

If not, where is the next closest source?

This is where appropriate labelling helps consumers make suitable choices. If produce is labelled, or information is available to the consumer about where it was grown, people are able to make preference choices that fit their own set of principles (e.g. buying a Stanthorpe apple as opposed to a Tasmanian apple).

What kind of agricultural practices were used?

Is this produce chemical free, organic, free range etc?

Are farmers receiving decent prices for their produce?

Whilst some of this information might be available through labels, we envisage that a better approach is to increase the direct relationships between consumers and the origin of their food – the growers and their farms. This can be done through various forms, such as: consumers using growers markets to be able to speak to the farmers directly; through Community Supported Agriculture enterprises where farmers are guaranteed a decent price for the season; and where consumers can make farm visits.

'Having a national definition of local would be a pretty hard sell. People want to be able to know the story behind that particular food. They want to be able to see the farmer's face that produced it, they want to have been able to visit his farm to see his production method — develop some relationships and trust. That's going to be a much more appropriate definition of local for most folks than any particular mile definition.'
Andrew Larson, extension program specialist for small farms and sustainable agriculture

What is the scale of our agricultural industry at present?

Compared to the majority of Australian climactic regions the Coffs Coast is a rich, fertile and water secure place (at present). This situation needs to be recognised and cherished, especially when the rest of the country is battling drought, restricting water use and dealing with salinity.

Food production is a significant part of the Coffs Coast economy with agriculture, forestry and fishing contributing \$69 million to the total gross regional product for Coffs Harbour in 2008/9.²⁶ Add to this the \$130 million accounted for by accommodation and food services, and food-related activities which account for approximately 7.4% of the total Gross Regional Product of \$2.7 billion for 2008/9. Food processing and manufacturing is an opportunity for the future, as the majority of the output from the area is consumed or shipped as raw produce. In terms of employment, 3.8% of the economically active population was engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing in 2006, and a further 10.8% in accommodation and food services.²⁷

The Bellingen Shire economy is largely based on agriculture such as dairy, beef and small crops. In the 2006 Census, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing was the fourth most common industry of employment in Bellingen Shire, accounting for 9.4% of the local labour force. Within this sector, 'Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming' employs 4.0% of the local population (aged 15 years and over).

Whilst the Coffs Coast is traditionally known for growing bananas, in recent times blueberries have taken over as the largest cash crop. Annual blueberry production from farms in Corindi exceeds 2000 tonnes, with one farm being the largest supplier of fresh berries in the Australian market.

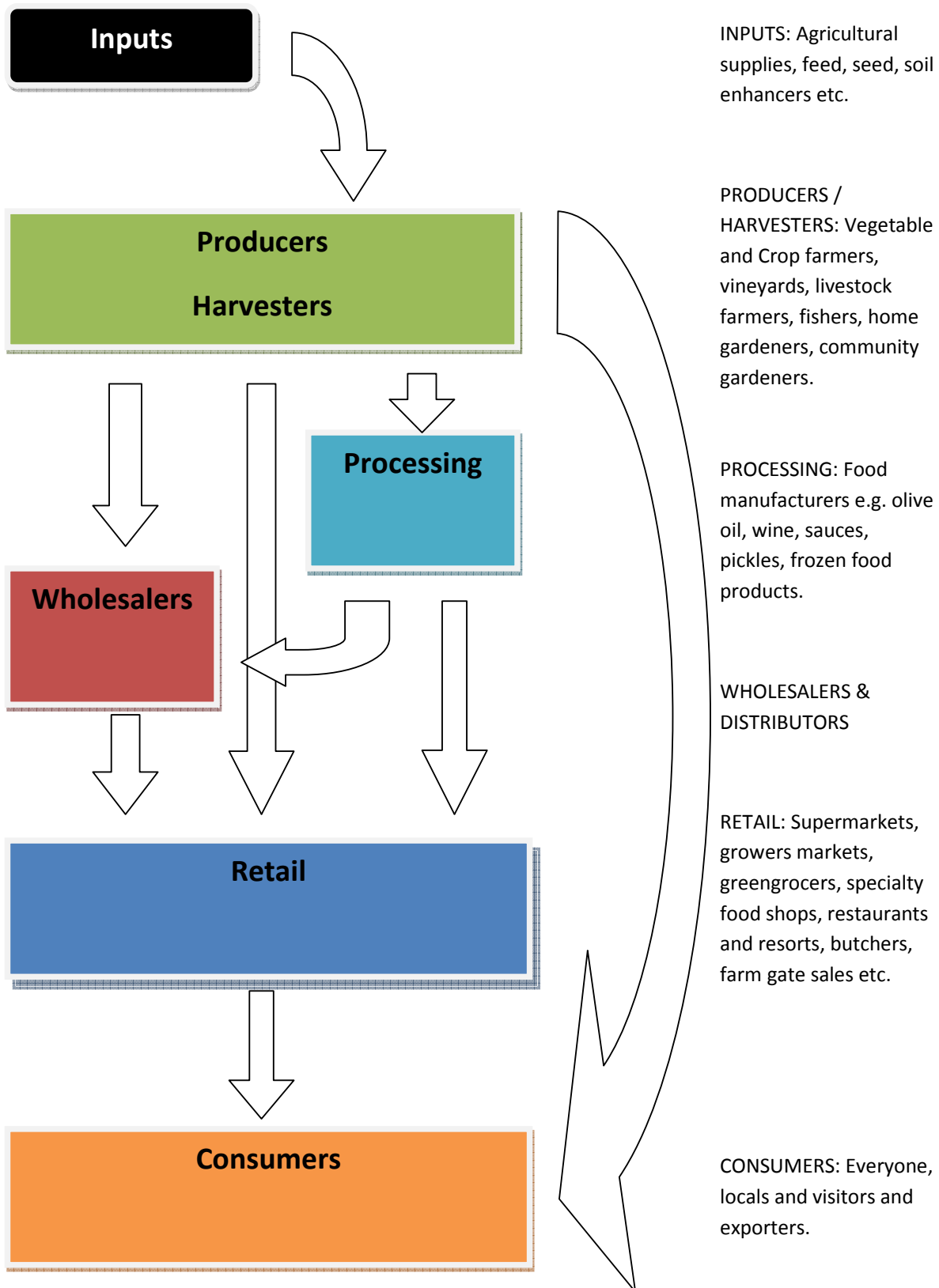
With the geographical constraints of our hinterland, broad acre farming is not the predominant farming model. Small scale farming is more popular due to the size of land holdings but also with the increase in new landholders moving to the area looking for small holdings that match their values, such as establishing organic farming enterprises.

As an indication of the diversity of crops that can be grown in the Coffs Coast we can look to the range of produce which is currently grown in the region by approximately 60 certified organic / in process of conversion farmers.²⁸ These include: Australian native spices (eg macadamia nuts, lemon, aniseed and cinnamon myrtle, Davidson plums, Tea Tree); avocados; bananas; beef cattle; citrus (lemons, limes, mandarins, oranges); coffee; dairy cattle; eggs; fruit (such as mangoes, lychees, passionfruit, watermelon, Davidson plum); mixed vegetables (such as garlic, leafy greens, pumpkin, mushrooms, sprouts); nut trees (macadamia, pecan) and wine grapes.

In NSW, the food sector generates approximately 20% of state gross product which represents significant opportunities for our local economy to become a larger part of this if we act now to strengthen our local and regional food system.

The importance of this sector should not be underestimated as it greatly impacts (and depends on) the state of the environment and our natural capital (water, soil, biodiversity). It also involves goods and services with immediate impacts on human health and wellbeing.

What is our Local Food Supply Chain?



Who are the key players in our Local Food System?

There is a diverse range of groups, events, organisations and initiatives that currently exist, or are evolving, in the Coffs Coast area and are linked to growing our local food system. Each of these key players has a unique role to play which is outlined below:

- **Farmers, Growers, Fishers** are the people who do the work of growing crops, raising livestock and poultry, catching fish and being environmental stewards at the same time.
- **Wholesalers** are the individuals and firms who purchase food and agricultural products in bulk from the farmers and re-sell it to retailers and restaurants.
- **Local retailers and restaurants** are the direct point of exchange for most consumers; they are also an important source of information about local produce, its seasonality and its availability.
- **Produce Markets** provide a strong link from the farmer to consumer. They re-connect consumers with the origins of their food, allow for increased social interaction within communities and increase the cash flowing directly into our local and regional economy.
- **Industry Organisations** - as peak bodies these organisations support their members and are important for their reach to members in the field, as well as sources of information.
- **Regional Networks or Projects** are important for the Coffs Coast and particularly the LFA to not just be aware of but be actively engaged with to leverage the work we do to have maximum impact.
- **Community Groups** are important in the development of grass-roots action, raising awareness about relevant issues, providing a forum for discussion and providing on-the-ground activities such as community gardens, film festivals and advocacy.
- **Local Government** has a key role to play in a number of different areas such as developing the local economy, increasing tourism, land use planning as well as supporting a diverse and active community.
- **State and National programs** are initiatives and organisations that operate on a larger basis than our region and are important sources of knowledge and learning. They can be catalysts for change as we can quickly transfer the successes or learn from the challenges they face.
- **International movements** are important to follow as they provide links to emergent trends and ideas for responses to the ever changing issues and challenges we have to face.

Refer to *Appendix C – Key Players* for specific details. The appendix is a useful reference and guide as it provides a summary of the group or initiative, their activities and details on where to find further information or who to contact. It is not designed to be an exhaustive list, rather to give an indication of the breadth and depth of what is happening in the arena of 'local food'.

What is missing from our Local and Regional Food System?

A review was undertaken to identify potential initiatives that could be used in the Coffs Coast to strengthen the local food system. The following is a summary of the opportunities available to our region. This information will be used to evaluate initiatives and their relevance for our action planning. Refer to *Appendix D – Key Initiatives* for further information. The appendix provides a summary of each initiative, some benefits, challenges and information on where to find further information.

- **Community Supported Agriculture** as a model of agriculture that creates a direct relationship between local consumers and local farmers, whereby the consumers enter into a contractual relationship with the farmers in order to receive a regular box of fresh seasonal produce, typically vegetables and fruit.
- **Local Food Directory / Database** to raise the profile of Coffs Coast food and beverage producers with commercial and individual consumers so that they can be more assured of a secure economic future.
- **Farm Gate Trail** to promote and strengthen our local food sector, whilst creating greater tourist numbers to the Coffs Coast hinterland through encouraging the local and outside tourist market to explore more of the hinterland region.
- **Seasonal Produce Guide** to raise consumer awareness of the fruit and vegetables they can expect to be in bountiful supply in their local markets.
- **Buy Local – Branding of Local Produce** to provide consumers with the assurance that they are supporting the local food industry by purchasing quality Coffs Coast produce and products that are made from local ingredients. In responses to our online survey this initiative was consistently rated as one of the most important.
- **Food Processing** has the potential to increase the regional economy and could be conducted on a small to medium scale on the Coffs Coast.
- **Micro Credit for Small Scale Farms** as a way of overcoming the barriers of high start-up costs for small scale farming projects such as market gardens.
- **Food Groups / Associations / Alliances / Networks** are formed by growers and producers with a range of aims that focus on promoting local produce and products.
- **Community Education and Awareness Raising** is typically organised by local food groups or associations which aim at increasing consumer knowledge and participation in the local food supply chain.
- **Edible Gardens** involve a range of programs that support residents in the conversion of front and backyards into edible gardens.

“We need to educate consumers about the true cost of produce, about the price of food and how it is worked out, once we are locked into the supermarket system.”

Brad, Nambucca Valley Local Food Network

- **Food Production on Public Land** involves the conversion of public land or existing public ornamental gardens to plants that provide food, herbs or medicinal properties. For example this can include community gardens or the conversion of street trees to fruit trees.
- **Distribution Networks (including Wholesale Market or Produce Market):** Coffs Harbour could capitalise on its central location between Sydney and Brisbane to create a local wholesale market that services an area from Port Macquarie to Byron Bay.
- **Local Food Co-operative** to sell local produce through a consumers cooperative set up.
- **Linking Local Producers with Local Restaurants** is a way of increasing the awareness of local chefs about locally available produce and increasing access to that produce.
- **School-Based Vegetable Gardens** are popular and we need to support the uptake and ongoing use of school based vegetable gardens in our region
- **Urban Planning for Local Food Systems** is seen as a new and growing area in which planners and the planning system are able to pursue local food production opportunities.
- **Centre for Small Scale Farming and Local Food Systems** would be an educational resource centre to assist local farmers and strengthen the local food system.
- **Farm Clusters and Farm Business Centres:** Clusters are individually operated farms that are co-located within the same boundary. The Cluster is developed to share infrastructure, running costs, and expertise. This is similar to the Business Park concept in urban areas. Centres would provide business services specifically for farmers in the Cluster.
- **Food Systems Assessment / Mapping the Local Food Supply Chain** are tools which can be used to create a locally-owned knowledge and evidence base about the state of local and regional food system. It provides an overview of the entire system and its five sectors – production, processing, distribution and exchange, consumption, and waste / recycling – and assists in identifying areas where policy changes need to be made and resources and programmes need to be directed to strengthen the local and regional food system.
- **Food Policy Council** is a way to overcome the fragmentation in a local or regional food system by providing a forum in which all the key stakeholders can come together to share perspectives, discuss common issues, identify priority action areas, as well as to evaluate existing policy and lobby for policy change. More than forty such Councils are active at the local, regional and state levels in North America, and demands have been made for their establishment at the state level in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. Last December the Tasmanian Government established Australia's first-ever Food Security Council, which will exercise functions similar to those of a Food Policy Council.

What are our strengths, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities?

To determine the answer to this question, the LFA gathered input and ideas from the following sources and methods:

- Discussions and interviews with individuals involved in various aspects of the food supply chain.
- An open Food Futures Forum held in Coffs Harbour in March 2009.
- Analysis undertaken by local community groups (BLFN, CROPO, Bellingen Landcare).

The results have been summarised into the four categories: strengths, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities. Note that these have been focused into localised issues, and should be considered in the context of the global issues as identified in the *Drivers for Change* section.

Strengths

Climate: high rainfall, good soil and a good climatic diversity across the coast, valley and mountains.

Geographical: Land availability is currently good with some landowners also willing to allow access for food growing purposes. Easy access especially with waterways.

Population: Low population levels

Knowledge: Good knowledge base available in the region. Some schools have started kitchen gardens.

Retail sector: Strong support of local produce (especially in Bellingen and growing in Coffs Harbour)

Agricultural: Strong organic influences with a lot of people interested and supportive. Livestock requires low energy inputs when compared to UK examples.

New Initiatives: Already experiments and pilot projects happening e.g. shared gardening co-op. Plans well underway with the establishment of community gardens (Bellingen)

Environmental: High levels of biodiversity (although under threat).

Organisational: Already have active organisations including Landcare, Biodynamic Association, Organic Marketing Company, Bellingen Local Food Network, NSW Farmers Association etc.

Weaknesses

Agricultural: Current farming models mainly based on monocultures. Lack of a good range of edible crops.

Economic: Horticulture is a hard way to make a living, with traditionally low economic returns. Demographic is split between time-rich, cash poor people and time-poor, cash-rich people.

Knowledge: Lack of 'deep knowledge' of sustainable farming. Some tree-change new residents have minimal knowledge about farming practices for their new ventures. Lack of skilled agricultural work force.

Supply Chain: Long length of the food supply chain creates disconnect between grower and consumer and increases costs/decreases profits for grower.

Consumers: Lack of local food consumption patterns. Consumers expect year round availability and perfect looking produce. Lack of knowledge about how to cook with a range of seasonal produce.

Processing: Lack of local food processing with much of the surplus crops going to waste.

Low Pressure: Complacency against change within the system because many do not believe we are at a crisis point.

Resources: Lack of access to good tools.

Planning: Disparate landholdings without sustainable standards of management, especially in rural-residential zonings.

Challenges

Climate: Susceptible to extreme weather events (esp. flooding).

Population: Increasing pressure from sea/tree changers and retirees. At the same time there is a 'youth drain' as they move away after school.

Land use: Increasing encroachment of residential and rural residential developments on agricultural land.

Environmental: Threat from Genetically Modified Organisms to local biodiversity.

Competition: The power wielded by multinationals and supermarkets puts pressure on the growers. Imported produce at subsidised prices. Perception that supermarkets are good value for money. Limited outlets for local produce in retail markets.

Continuity of Supply: Local produce retailers need a continuity of supply to meet the expectations of their customers.

Eating Habits: Consumers enjoy their junk food. Underlying belief that fast food is cheaper than a healthy alternative.

Consumer Awareness: Need to encourage more residents and business to buy local produce. Increase awareness about the benefits of local food. Lack of consumer knowledge about what is available and from where and belief that local food is more expensive.

Knowledge: Lack of opportunities for sharing skills and knowledge. Support required for the transition to sustainable agricultural methodologies.

Opportunities

Employment: Increase in local production and processing would increase employment.

Health Benefits: Improved mental and physical health through healthy eating and more exercise and social connectivity.

Processing: Increase opportunities to turn current waste or seasonal gluts into value added produce.

Environmental: Through more sustainable agricultural practices attain enhanced soil and increase biodiversity.

Knowledge: Recovering and valuing indigenous knowledge. Training and encouraging the next generation of growers. Documenting existing knowledge for wider use. Networking. Linking sustainable gardening into the school curriculum.

Farming Systems: Increased use of alternative farming models such as Community Supported Agriculture.

Land use: Create a supportive environment for the sharing of land, a land bank or land for low rent. Creation of edible streetscapes – replacing ornamental plants. Forest farming.

Awareness Raising: A local food directory to assist in connecting growers and consumers. Education about the true cost of food. Branding of local food. Local food events, for example film nights, long lunches, progressive farm dinners, biggest local picnic etc.

Retail: Support growers market expansion. Mapping the buying needs of restaurants and linking this to what is grown.

Tourism: Increase awareness and value of local produce.

Infrastructure and Equipment: Assistance with sharing of machinery and tools.

A Strategic Approach

What are our Strategic Areas?

The following eight strategic areas have been selected to drive future initiatives and action.

Policy

The promotion of local and regional food systems goes beyond farming. It puts food on the agenda of policy makers in all sectors and at all levels, directing them to be aware of the environmental, health and economic consequences of their decisions around food production, processing, distribution, consumption and waste / recycling.

Local food policy requires coordinated action that contributes to ensuring safer and healthier goods and services, and cleaner, more sustainable and resilient environments. It requires the identification of obstacles and ways of removing them. The aim must be to make the local food choice the easier choice for both policy makers and for consumers.

Food Alliances

Food and agriculture issues significantly affect public health, land use, community culture, economy, environment and quality of life. In regional areas such as Coffs Coast, different government agencies are responsible for these individual issues, but there is no single government body coordinating ways that food production and consumption impact these different areas. To address this gap some regions in New South Wales have developed a regional Alliance as a response.

An Alliance serves as a comprehensive bridge of communication between community, government and business stakeholders, enabling them to jointly build and implement a common vision for the region's food supply. An Alliance can make recommendations, coordinate programs, create new programs, and address policy barriers. An Alliance also serves as a citizen resource and a source of inspiration for grassroots efforts to support farmers markets, community gardens, local food sourcing etc.

The Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance has been established with these goals. On-going support for the LFA needs to be secured to guarantee its long term sustainability. Government and non-government agencies can support the Alliance through providing technical support, in-kind support, funding or staff assistance, publicity and support for specific projects.

This vision of an Alliance in many ways resembles the Food Policy Councils that have been established in recent decades in North America. One way in which the LFA might develop is to either become a regional Food Policy Council, or help nurture one as a strategic project.

Leadership

Leaders are crucial in changing perceptions about what is possible. We need to build the skills, networks, confidence and profile of existing and emerging leaders within the local and regional food system. One way to achieve this may be through strategic partnerships with existing leadership programs. Other alternatives include supporting leaders as they emerge in community groups or industry organisations.

Knowledge and Skills

Knowledge gathering, sharing and utilisation need to be developed on a ‘food systems’ basis that links agriculture, food and health. It will involve developing a research capability that comprehends the food system as a whole, and having people who are capable of leading the system in new directions. Linking with existing networks is key in sharing knowledge and expanding the access to skilled people.

“There needs to be more knowledge-sharing, peer-to-peer, farmer-to-farmer...We should {for example} be looking at ways in which we can use manure as fertiliser, not just rely on chemicals.”
Dale, Goat and Pig Farmer, Bowraville

We need to fill the gaps in our knowledge and skills in specific disciplines (for example, in sustainable farming practices) but also along the food supply chain. Agriculture and farming needs to be re-branded if it is to be competitive in attracting and retaining the sorts of people we need.

Focusing on a knowledge agenda puts at the forefront our need to base our decisions on sound research and common understandings. Through this process we can build cross-sector networks, fund scoping activities and support innovation across the system. Any knowledge agenda should not only focus on the gathering of these resources but also on the application of it in practical situations that makes a real difference to our quality of life.

Farming and the Food Supply Chain

There is a great need and opportunity to explore new farming practices that would be viable despite potentially severe shortages of energy, nutrients, water and carbon. There may be large advantages in linking conventional agriculture with current farming practices labelled ‘alternative’, i.e. organic, biodynamic, permaculture, biological farming etc., as well as the more generalised application of techniques such as Integrated Pest Management.

“The middle pieces are what’s often missing for small farmers who want to expand their businesses. We can increase our supply, and we know that there is a demand for our products, but where do we process our foods and how do we transport and store them? Right now, most of those systems are designed to accommodate large scale producers and buyers rather than small operations.”
Janie Burns, small farm entrepreneur from Canyon County, Idaho U.S.A. quoted in NACo Center for Sustainable Communities 2007.

There is scope to expand alternative food production and distribution strategies such as farmers markets, Community Supported Agriculture enterprises, and urban food production. In particular, a type of closed loop cycle could be created if integrated with public transport and re-engineered with waste streams to provide recycled water, energy and nutrients for food production.

Food supply chain re-design should aim to:

- Shorten food chains
- Reduce transport and energy costs
- Reconnect people with food and how it is grown
- Increase consumption of fresh, whole foods

Infrastructure for Local Producers

To have a vibrant local food system, a region must have solid infrastructure to support it. Small and mid-sized producers are most likely to sell their products locally, and infrastructure gives them the leg up they need to begin expanding production. It also encourages new small and mid-sized entrepreneurs to start up operations.

Infrastructure for local producers means land on which to grow food, suppliers from which to purchase seeds, inputs, tools and machinery; facilities in which to store goods, processing and packing facilities to transform raw products into marketable ones, and shipping and distribution methods to deliver products to buyers. Support needs to be provided in these areas to ensure our local growers are in the best position to realise opportunities in the future.

Community Education and Awareness Raising

Consumer concerns and demand for different types of food, produced and distributed in different ways, can become expressed as new consumption preferences which change the marketplace. Even though they may be relatively small (compared to the mainstream market) they can have real economic impacts, either because of their purchasing power or because there are marketing companies or producers focused on finding new niche markets to expand.

Strategies to assist consumers evaluate their choices include promotion of what produce is in season and what is grown locally, reducing food waste at the household level and choosing a sustainable diet.

Strengthen Community Actions

Improving the local food system will work by creating effective community action - setting priorities, making decisions, planning strategies and implementing them. At the heart of this process is the empowerment of communities - their ownership and control of their own endeavours and destinies.

Community development draws on existing human and material resources in the community to enhance self-help and social support, and to develop flexible systems for strengthening public participation in and direction of local food matters. This requires full and continuous access to information, learning opportunities, as well as funding support.

ASSESSING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR FOOD SYSTEM

Assessing the sustainability of any food system from paddock to plate is extremely complex and difficult. There are no commonly agreed, standardised metrics, nor are there good data to underpin measurement, certification and accreditation systems.

The lack of any accepted assessment framework is in itself one of the major long-term challenges. Consumers are increasingly interested in the production and provenance of their food. Their concerns range from:

- environmental factors such as greenhouse gas emissions, water consumption and biodiversity loss;
- ethical concerns around animal welfare and genetically modified organisms;
- human health concerns about nutrition, contamination, pesticides and additives; and
- social concerns about issues such as fair trade, child labour and support for local producers.

In the absence of any widely agreed standards, faced with consumers’ demands for reassurance about food quality in the broadest sense, and seeking product differentiation, a plethora of different approaches has emerged. Some of these are long standing and refer to specific production systems, such as *organic*, *biodynamic* and *free range*. Others are more recent and refer to specific ways of assessing products, such as food miles and embodied water. None of these labels or approaches purport to cover all the concerns listed above, which is fair enough, but it leaves consumers in a quandary trying to sort out a plethora of competing claims.

Source: ACF (2008, p.10)

“We as farmers need to diversify our production, we need to observe the land, see what it will support Diversification is key because if one crop fails, then we have something else to fall back on. If we don't change, we are going down. Mapping the resources is key, including water and access to labour.”

William, Fruit grower, Nambucca

How will the strategic areas be put into action?

We see it as the role and responsibility of all government agencies, non-government organisations, industry and individuals to adopt the principles outlined in this Framework and develop responses appropriate for them or their organisation.

We have outlined strategic areas that are crucial for a comprehensive response to enable a strong, resilient local and regional food system on the Coffs Coast. In responses to our online survey, Community Education and Awareness-Raising was seen as the most important of the Strategic Areas, followed by infrastructure for local producers and supporting the development and sharing of knowledge and skills.

Over the coming months and years we will be looking to develop and strengthen our partnerships with other groups, organisations and agencies to be able to deliver key actions.

At present, the Coffs Coast Local Food Alliance can act as a central focus for activity. The Alliance has a *Steering Group* which was set up to drive the development of this framework and initiate specific actions as well as *Members* who are interested in supporting the vision. Within the Alliance, *Working Groups* will be formed and disbanded as required to deliver projects.

A summary table of strategic actions is presented on the following page. This table lists a range of key actions and indicates the strategic area(s) that they support. As you will see, some of the actions are already in place or are being addressed through Working Groups.

Currently the Alliance has established *Working Groups* to deliver projects in the following areas:

- **Bellingen Community Gardens**
- **Coffs Harbour Community Gardens**
- **Community Education and Awareness Raising**
- **Strategic Planning and Evaluation**

Each of these groups will **develop its own action plan** to address **its** selected strategic areas. The *Working Groups* will meet as required and report back to the *Steering Group* to ensure a coordinated approach and share knowledge and experience to build the capacity of our community to respond to these challenges.

We encourage the development of other *Working Groups* to address any areas that are not being covered by these groups.

When will this Framework be reviewed?

In order to maintain enthusiasm and increase community and industry participation in future years, the Alliance will review this Framework on an annual basis. The review will document and celebrate the achievements made in each of the strategic areas.

EXAMPLE ACTIONS		STRATEGIC AREAS							
	EXISTING or ADDRESSED THROUGH A WORKING GROUP	Policy	Food Alliance	Leadership	Knowledge and Skills	Farming Systems and Food Supply Chain	Infrastructure	Comm. Education & Awareness Raising	Strengthen Community Actions
Backyard Gardening					X			X	
Branding of Local produce	WG3*							X	X
Centre for Small Scale Farming and Urban Agriculture					X	X	X		
Choosing a sustainable diet	WG3							X	
Communication and Discussion (Speaker Program)	WG3		X	X	X				
Community Gardens	WG1 + 2				X				X
Community Supported Agriculture	New				X	X			X
Eating in Season	WG3				X			X	
Farm Clusters and Farm Business Centres						X			
Farm Gate Trail	WG3					X		X	
Farmers Markets	Existing			X		X		X	
Food Sensitive Urban Design (LEPs, DCPs, other policies)		X		X					
Horticultural Workshops					X				X
Local Food Film Festival	WG3				X			X	X
Local Food Purchasing Policies		X							
Local Produce Directory - Linking Growers and Chefs	WG3				X	X		X	
Micro-financing for small scale farm start-ups							X		
Permablitz	WG3				X			X	X
Rural Leadership Program				X					
School based Vegetable Gardens					X				X
Share use of land by landholders		X				X			
Shared processing and packing facilities							X		
Shipping and distribution methods							X		
Support emerging leaders in the industry				X					X
Support existing networks e.g. BLFN, CROPO, TTs			X	X					X
Support for the Alliance (e.g. in-kind support, funding etc)			X						
Urban food production (Edible Gardens, Public Land Use)		X							
Waste Reduction								X	

WG1 = Bellingen Community Garden Working Group

WG2 = Coffs Harbour Community Garden Working Group

WG3 = Community Education and Awareness Raising Working Group

*evaluation of feasibility

How can I become Involved?

Become a member of the LFA

Membership is open to anyone who is interested in local food in the Coffs Coast region. Membership is free and members form the 'community of interest'.

Members can elect to join any working group(s) they are interested in. Communication to members is via an e-newsletter. This distribution list is currently held by Coffs Harbour City Council. More info and how to join available at: www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/localfood

Join a Working Group

If you want to become more actively involved, or are interested in a specific area, then you may be interested in becoming part of a working group. It is early days in the formation of the Alliance and the Working Groups are just beginning to emerge; now is the time to put your name forward and help take the vision into action.

Current *Working Groups* and contact details:

- **Bellingen Community Garden**

The Community Garden will be a multifunctional education-focused garden and is intended to be a model of sustainable living practices. There will also be a separate allotment style community garden. The Bellingen Community Gardens Association has been established to take this process forward in an accountable, transparent and democratic way. Currently seeking core teams of gardeners to participate. Contact: Nick Rose on 0429 496 792 or email nick.rose96@gmail.com

- **Coffs Harbour Regional Community Garden**

The Community Garden will be a model of sustainable living practices and include allotment and demonstration areas. Currently seeking interested gardeners to be part of this exciting project. Contact: Adam Curlis on 6658 1991 or email adam.curlis@tafensw.edu.au

- **Community Education and Awareness Raising**

An initial seven projects have been identified for this working group to implement. Projects were identified through stakeholder workshops and discussions. The Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival is one of these Projects with its own website: <http://www.coffscostlocalfoodfilmfestival.org.au/>. Contact: Lynn Delgado on 6648 4646 or email lynn.delgado@chcc.nsw.gov.au

Start a Project

If you see an opportunity for your or your organisation to work in a specific strategic area we encourage government agencies, non-government organisations, industry and individuals to create their own project team or *Working Group* to make it happen. The LFA Steering Group will be able to help initiate the process and put you in contact with other interested people and organisations. Contact: Kristina Cooke on 6648 4089 or email kristina.cooke@chcc.nsw.gov.au

Links and Further Information

AUSTRALIAN

Australian City Farms and Community Gardens Network

<http://communitygarden.org.au/>

A web-based network seeking to promote community gardening around Australia through providing resources and information, as well as a forum for the sharing of experiences and stories by community gardens in diverse locations.

Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival

<http://www.coffscostlocalfoodfilmfestival.org.au/>

The new website of the Local Food Alliance's very first regional Local Food Film Festival. Five feature films, including the internationally acclaimed *End of the Line*, will be screened at venues in Sawtell, Bowraville and Bellingen during June 2010. The Festival has already attracted the support of many local businesses and organisations, laying the foundations for solid growth in future years.

Friends of the Earth Adelaide: Plains to Plate Convergence

<http://www.adelaide.foe.org.au/?tag=from-plains-to-plate>

A gathering of over 700 farmers, academics, government, health and community workers, and many others at the University of Adelaide in February 2010. The outcome was a declaration for the future of food in South Australia: <http://futureoffoodsa.ning.com/page/declaration-1>.

Food Connect

<http://www.foodconnect.com.au/>

Food Connect is a 'hybrid Community Shared Agriculture' enterprise that was started in 2005 in Brisbane. It supplies fresh and processed produce from 100 farmers and growers in the Brisbane region to approximately 1000 subscribers in the Brisbane suburbs. It has recently been replicated in Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne, with plans for further replications in many other areas around Australia including the Coffs Coast.

Landcare Groups

Community-based not-for-profit organisations that support community initiatives and involvement in natural resource management.

www.bellingerlandcare.org.au or www.coffsharbourlandcare.org.au

Permablitz

<http://www.permablitz.net/>

Permablitzes are 'an informal gathering involving a day on which a group of people come together to create or add to edible gardens, share skills related to permaculture and sustainable living, build community networks and have fun'. They were begun in Melbourne in 2006 and have since spread across Australia.

Sydney Food Futures Alliance

www.sydneyfoodfairness.org.au/

SFFA formed in Sydney in 2005 to coordinate the efforts of rural producers, health professionals, community workers and community-based advocates active in developing a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable food system in the Sydney region.

True Food Network

www.truefood.org.au/

The True Food Network is a growing community of everyday Australians, chefs, food experts, farmers and community groups uniting to protect our food from genetic engineering (GE).

INTERNATIONAL

f3

www.localfood.org.uk/index.html

f3 is a UK based community interest company that provides market research, business planning and consultancy services to organisations and enterprises involved in local food and farming, and related sustainability initiatives.

La Via Campesina

<http://www.viacampesina.org/en/>

The 'international movement of peasants, small- and medium-sized producers, landless, rural women and indigenous people, rural youth and agricultural workers', Via Campesina was founded in 1993 and has 148 member organisations, representing between 150 and 200 million people, in 70 countries.

Local Harvest

<http://www.localharvest.org/>

A US-based website promoting the benefits of connecting farmers directly with local consumers. It provides national and local information on farmers' markets, family farms, CSAs and other outlets where consumers can source the best local produce. Similar initiatives are now underway in Australia, e.g.: <http://www.sunshinecoastregionalfood.com/localharvest/>.

Making Local Food Work

www.makinglocalfoodwork.co.uk/

An initiative managed by the Plunkett Foundation and funded by the Big Lottery Fund to explore community enterprise approaches to connecting land and people through food.

Sustain

www.sustainweb.org

The alliance for better food and farming advocates food and agriculture policies and practices that enhance the health and welfare of people and animals, improve the

Sustainable Table

www.sustainabletable.org/home.php

Sustainable Table celebrates local sustainable food, educates consumers on food-related issues and works to build community through food.

The Sustainable Food Lab

www.sustainablefoodlab.org/

The mission of the Sustainable Food Lab is to accelerate the shift of sustainable food from niche to mainstream.

Slow Food

<http://www.slowfood.com/>

A 'non-profit, eco-gastronomic member-supported organization founded in 1989 to counteract fast food and fast life, the disappearance of local food traditions and people's dwindling interest in the food they eat, where it comes from, how it tastes and how our food choices affect the rest of the world'. Slow Food Slow Food Australia has 'convivia' in all Australian states and territories:

<http://slowfoodaustralia.com.au/convivia/>.

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Appendix A - Abbreviations

BLFN	Bellingen Local Food Network
BSC	Bellingen Shire Council
CROPO	Coffs Region Organic Producers Organisation.
CHCC	Coffs Harbour City Council
CHRL	Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare
LFA	Local Food Alliance
NCAHS	North Coast Area Health Service
BL	Bellingen Landcare
CSA	Community Supported Agriculture

Appendix B - Glossary

Food Miles is a measure of how far food travels – from paddock to plate – and is an indication of how environmentally-friendly it is. Food freight – especially by air and road – consumes fuel and energy, and releases greenhouse pollution, affecting the global climate. Generally speaking, the lower the food miles the better choice the product is for the environment.

Food Resilience is the ability within a society to deal with multiple food shocks and long-term changes through the creation of multiple alternative models of production and distribution based on networked small(er) scale systems of production and distribution that are localised, use regional resources, that enhances diversity of food varieties available while strengthening community capacity to produce food and engage in socio-technical innovation in the creation of new models.
Larry Langman (2009)

Food sovereignty has been defined by Via Campesina as “the right of peoples to define their own food and agriculture; to protect and regulate domestic agricultural production and trade in order to achieve sustainable development objectives; to determine the extent to which they want to be self reliant; to restrict the dumping of products in their markets; and to provide local fisheries-based communities the priority in managing the use of and the rights to aquatic resources. Food sovereignty does not negate trade, but rather, it promotes the formulation of trade policies and practices that serve the rights of peoples to safe, healthy and ecologically sustainable production.”
Source: Statement on Peoples' Food Sovereignty" by Via Campesina, et al.

Sustainable Local Food Economies can be described as a sustainable system of producing, processing and trading food, where the physical and economic activity is largely contained and controlled within the locality or region where the food was produced, and which delivers health, economic, environmental and social benefits to the people living and working in those areas.

Appendix C – Key Players

Community Groups

Bellingen Local Food Network and the Bellingen Community Gardens Association

The Bellingen Community Gardens Association (BCGA) grew out of the Bellingen Local Food Network (BLFN). The BLFN was formed in 2007 by a group of local residents who want to ensure that people in the shire have continued access to fresh, nutritious, affordable, local food, no matter what environmental and social challenges the future may bring.

Their medium- to long-term goals are to build agricultural and social resilience as well as a stronger community spirit.

Activities that the BLFN and BCGA are involved in include:

- Hosting Local Food film festivals including local food dinners.
- Workshops covering topics such as composting, establishing a garden bed, choosing correct varieties for the season and climate, seed propagation, and dealing with pests and diseases.
- A share gardening co-op on private land
- Promoting the establishment of market gardens
- Establishing model community gardens
- Promoting the concept of “Permaculture”
- Networking with local growers and other community groups with similar aims, such as Bellinger Landcare
- Working towards the establishment of a Community Supported Agriculture scheme

Contact person: Nick Rose

Email: nick.rose96@gmail.com

Bellingen Seed Savers

Aim to ensure a reliable source of delicious, nutritious local food into the future. They seek seeds and plants that grow well in the Bellingen area, whether they have been handed down through generations of local growers or have been brought in from elsewhere and adapted to our conditions.

Contact person: Irene Wallin

Phone: 6655 9090

Email: treeferns@westnet.com.au

Website: www.ecobello.org.au/ click on ‘The Forum’ and visit Bellingen Seed Savers

Nambucca Valley Local Food Network

Formed in 2008 by small-scale growers and local residents from Macksville, Nambucca and Bowraville, the NVLFN was formed to promote the support of local farmers and growers in the Nambucca Valley as well as the responsible consumption of food. The NVLFN is working with members of the BLFN and the BCGA to organise the first Coffs Coast Local Food Film Festival.

Contact: Shana Henry
Phone: 6568 3568
Email: mattnshana@paintedguitar.com

North Bank Road Community Garden

The North Bank Road Community Garden was formed by local Bellingen residents in 2009. It is a community garden and urban farm located on land donated by a private landowner near the centre of Bellingen. It provides opportunities for community gardening for nearby residents; some food is being sold to local shops and restaurants. Social activities also take place at the garden.

Contact: Olivia Bernadetti, oliviaonearth@gmail.com

Simply Natural Organic Farm and the Dorrigo Green Lifestyle Group

Simply Natural Organic farm is a thriving, productive working lifestyle system. The gardens, orchards, animal systems and sustainable management practices offer an inspiring living classroom to learn from. Jade is a dynamic, passionate advocate of organic, holistic living and she is generous in sharing her experiences. Jade is the author of 4 books on organic gardening which are wonderful resources and to many they are considered their organic gardening bibles. Jades books have been written to inspire and guide you to action. Jade believes that it is vitally important for people to be growing their own food in their own yard or community. She also encourages your development of neighbourhood sharing and exchange for local community involvement, support and development. Jade and Paul Woodhouse live Simply, Naturally, and organically...the 'Good Life'. The self reliant lifestyle they wish to show you is extremely abundant and enhances our care on the environment. Jade Woodhouse offers - Education courses, - Organic gardening books, - Consultations & - Personal Gardening Tuition.

Contact person: Jade Woodhouse
Phone: 6657 3368
Email: paul.jade@bigpond.com.au
Website: <http://www.simplynaturalorganic.com/index.html>

Coffs Regional Organic Producers' Organisation Inc.

The Coffs Regional Organic Producers' Organisation Inc (C.R.O.P.O.) aims to foster and promote organic, permaculture, and bio-dynamic practice on the Mid North Coast.

Contact person: David Wilson

Phone: 6658 1991

Email: sevenheaven@tadaust.org.au

Website: www.cropo.org.au

Mid North Coast Seed Savers

Contact person: David Wilson

Phone: 6658 1991

Email: sevenheaven@tadaust.org.au

Produce Markets

Coffs Harbour Growers Markets

The Coffs Coast Growers' Market is a not-for-profit business enterprise managed by Coffs Harbour City Council, with stallholder fees injected back into its promotion and organisation. The Market is held every Thursday in the City Square and aims to assist in the promotion and preservation of the local agricultural industry by assisting local producers to maximise the viability and profits of their business, and encouraging people to get involved within the industry. The Market also aims to encourage a healthier lifestyle through the provision of fresh locally produced goods, enhance trade within the City Square by bringing more people in and enriching the ambience of the Square, and create a greater awareness of what the Coffs Coast agricultural industry has to offer.

Contact person: Jan Rooney

Phone: 6648 4084

Email: janice.rooney@chcc.nsw.gov.au

Website: <http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/www/html/921-coffs-coast-growers-market.asp>

Bellingen Growers Market

The Bellingen Growers Market provides locals with fresh, "chemical free" produce without added transport costs. It supports local backyard and commercial growers and producers. Natural produce is goods that have been grown without human-made chemicals i.e. pesticides and fertilisers. The market provides a meeting place for the exchange of ideas and allows buyers buy fresh goods directly from the growers.

The Market is held on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month at the Bellingen Showground.

Contact person: Enrico Malcisi

Phone: 6655 8566

Email: bellingen growersmarket@westnet.com.au

Website: <http://www.bellingen.com/growersmarket/>

Bellingen Community Markets

A vibrant marketplace which is home to a fantastic range of handmade arts and crafts, local food and fresh produce, massage and alternative therapies with live entertainment for all the family.

The markets are held every 3rd Saturday of the month.

Phone: 6655 2151

Email: via website

Website: <http://www.bellingenmarkets.com.au/>

Industry Organisations

Organic Marketing Company

The Organic Marketing Company Pty Ltd is a farmer owned company. This company exclusively markets certified organic and biodynamic produces. They trade in raw and value added products to local, domestic and international markets.

The aim is to empower farmers to balance their production, profit and organic systems by enhancing marketing opportunities.

Contact person: Tom Hackett

Phone: 6653 4449

Email: organicmarketingcompany@yahoo.com.au

Biodynamic Agriculture Australia

Contact details: PO Box 54, Bellingen, NSW, 2454

Phone: 02 6655 0566

Website: www.biodynamics.net.au

NSW Farmers Association

Works to ensure the best possible results for farmers, rural and regional communities. Develop effective working relationships with key politicians and public servants to represent farming concerns and to achieve effective legislation.

Contact person: Gary Dew, Mid North Coast District Council or Michael Burt,
burtm@nswfarmers.org.au

Community Gardens

CHESSE

CHESSE have two programs that relate to local food which they operate for their clients:

- Farm at Wells Crossing: Approved clients of CHESSE can work at the CHESSE Farm, one or two days per week. Duties include planting, propagating, picking and general farm work.
- Community Garden at the Botanical Gardens: Under guidance, participants develop skills in organic gardening, grow and nurture herbs, vegetables and flowers. Participants have input into what will be grown and will access the fresh, nutritious food that is produced.

Contact: John Mandile

Email: Jjohn@chessemployment.com.au

Website: <http://www.chessemployment.com.au/>

Bellingen Share Garden

This informal initiative was started on private land in May 2008, with the participation of 10 families. Motivated by a desire to learn how to grow some of his own food and to do so co-operatively with like-minded others, the landowner and his family have made available about 1/3rd of an acre, which has been divided into 10 beds, approximately 15 metres long by 1 metre wide. Now into its second year, this experiment in communal growing has proved to be a resounding success.

Contact person: Siddhanta Hazell

Phone: 6655 0453

Email: hazells1@bigpond.com

Asian Community Garden in Orara Valley

The Buddhist monastery in Orara Valley are working with CROPO to develop a community garden with the aim of showcasing Asian foods and herbs. This will provide increased links between the monastery and the wider population.

Other Local Networks or Regional Projects

Northern Rivers Food Links

NSW Environmental Trust funded project which is a collaboration of seven Northern Rivers Councils.

The project aims to future proof the Northern Rivers urban communities against the impacts of Climate Change and Peak Oil by addressing the environmental impacts of food supply chains locally.

Email: info@northernriversfoodlinks.com.au

Phone: 02 6686 3972

Website: www.northernriversfoodlinks.com.au

Transition Bellingen

Transition Bellingen began as a project of the Bellingen Climate Action Group in February 2008 and joined the international Transition Town Network a few months later. Their goal is to create a resilient and conscious community that can meet the coming challenges of climate change and peak oil.

Contact: transitionbellingen@gmail.com

Northern Rivers Climate Change Collaboration/Sustain Northern Rivers

A resilience focused project engaging key stakeholders on the northern rivers area.

Contact person: Annie Kia, North Coast Area Health Service

Phone: 66207504

Email: Annie.Kia@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au

Bellingen Landcare

Bellinger Landcare Incorporated is a community-based not-for-profit organisation supporting community initiatives and involvement in natural resource management in Bellingen Shire and beyond. Established a Small Farms Network.

Website: <http://www.bellingerlandcare.org.au>

Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare

Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare Inc (CHRL) is an umbrella group for approximately 50 land-caring sites, groups and associations, comprising of dune, river, estuary, bush, coast and land 'care' groups in the Coffs Harbour area. Landcare activities including Dunecare, Rivercare, Coastcare and Bushcare have been a part of the Coffs Harbour Community for over 20 years now. Over 500 volunteers have eradicated weeds, repaired riverbeds and streams, regenerated bushland, promoted environmentally friendly practices and beautified many of our parks, towns and coastlines.

Website: <http://coffsharbourlandcare.org.au/>

Illawarra Food Fairness

The alliance is made up of a broad range of organisations and individuals from the community with different interests who share a common goal of enabling access to a sustainable and healthy food supply for all. Members include Healthy Cities Illawarra, local councils, University of Wollongong, SESI Health, The Cancer Council, NSW, community centres, food aid groups and welfare services, community gardens, school garden programs and interested community members. Our key areas of interest are advocating for: food security, sustainable agriculture and food systems, the vital role of local/regional food production and supporting local welfare and community groups who work with people experiencing food insecurity.

Website: <http://www.healthycitiesill.org.au/foodfairness.htm>

State-based

Sydney Food Fairness Alliance

SFFA formed in Sydney in 2005 to coordinate the efforts of rural producers, health professionals, community workers and community-based advocates active in developing a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable food system in the Sydney region.

Website: <http://www.sydneyfoodfairness.org.au/alliance.html>

NSW Department of State and Regional Development – Food Producers program

A comprehensive program of workshops aimed at increasing skills and capacity of local food producers and processors. The program will culminate with the opportunity for producers to showcase their produce at NSW Parliament House.

Contact person: Louise Potter, Business Development Officer
Email: louise.potter@business.nsw.gov.au

National

Organic Federation of Australia

Our role is to work in co-operation with all sectors of industry and government to develop the Australian Organic Industry from a niche industry into a major component of Australian agriculture and deliver benefits to consumers, producers and the Australian environment

Website: <http://www.ofa.org.au/>

International Movements

Slow Food Movement

Slow Food is a non-profit, eco-gastronomic member-supported organization that was founded in 1989 to counteract fast food and fast life, the disappearance of local food traditions and people's dwindling interest in the food they eat, where it comes from, how it tastes and how our food choices affect the rest of the world. To do that, Slow Food brings together pleasure and responsibility, and makes them inseparable.

<http://www.slowfood.com/>

Via Campesina ("The Peasant Way")

Via Campesina is the international movement of peasants, small- and medium-sized producers, landless, rural women, indigenous people, rural youth and agricultural workers. Established in 1993 as the product of years of cultural exchanges and ongoing dialogue between small farmers and peasant organisations in both the global North and South, it seeks to defend the values and the basic interests of its members, now estimated at over 200 million people worldwide. It is an autonomous, pluralist and multicultural movement, independent of any political, economic, or other type of affiliation, with members from dozens of countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas.

The principal objective of La Via Campesina is to develop solidarity and unity among small farmer organizations in order to promote gender parity and social justice in fair economic relations; the preservation of land, water, seeds and other natural resources; food sovereignty; and sustainable agricultural production based on small and medium-sized producers. La Via Campesina promotes a model of peasant or family-farm agriculture based on sustainable production with local resources and in harmony with local culture and traditions. Peasants and farmers rely on a long experience with their locally available resources. We are capable of producing the optimal quantity and quality of food with few external inputs. Our production is mainly for family consumption and domestic markets.

One of its key demands is for Food Sovereignty, defined as the RIGHT of peoples, countries, and state unions to define their agricultural and food policy without the "dumping" of agricultural commodities into foreign countries. Food sovereignty organizes food production and consumption according to the needs of local communities, giving priority to production for local consumption. Food sovereignty includes the right to protect and regulate the national agricultural and livestock production and to shield the domestic market from the dumping of agricultural surpluses and low-price imports from other countries. Landless people, peasants, and small farmers must get access to

land, water, and seed as well as productive resources and adequate public services. Food sovereignty and sustainability are a higher priority than trade policies.

Contact: Irma Yanny, Regional La Via Campesina, South East Asia & East Asia

Phone: 62 61 6842802

Email : petani@indosat.net.id

Website: http://www.viacampesina.org/main_en/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

Transition Towns

Transition Towns (aka Transition Network, aka Transition Movement) is a movement that was founded in Kinsale, Ireland and was then spread to Totnes, England by environmentalist Rob Hopkins during 2005 and 2006. The aim of the project is to equip communities for the dual challenges of climate change and peak oil. The movement currently has member communities in a number of countries worldwide.

Website: www.transitiontowns.org

Appendix D – Key Initiatives

Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a form of agriculture which has potential for landholders with small farms located near cities or large regional centres. CSA farmers produce fresh vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers (and sometimes meats, eggs, fibre or preserves) directly for local community members; delivering the products weekly.

This is a model of agriculture that creates a direct relationship between local consumers and local farmers, whereby the consumers enter into a contractual relationship (subscriptions) with the farmers in order to receive a weekly / fortnightly / monthly box of produce. Depending on levels of time and enthusiasm, some participating consumers may spend a few hours each week on the farm in order to help it achieve higher levels of productivity (particularly important with organic farming), and thus the exchange may be non-monetary or only partially monetary. CSA is a fast-growing movement in the United States, with numbers of CSAs expanding from 50 in 1990 to more than 1000 today.

In most CSA businesses producers and/or organising members (customers) plan a budget that includes costs of production, salaries, distribution of the food and administration. Then after determining how many members the production can support, they calculate the cost of joining. In the USA membership fees vary from US\$150 to US\$800, depending on the length of the growing season and the amount of produce supplied.

Benefits

- If sufficient numbers of local consumers participate in this model it will guarantee to the farmer a minimum income and ensure its economic sustainability into the future.
- Does not require large tracts of land or specialised machinery.
- Unique direct marketing focus which increases connections between grower and consumer, and means farmers have fewer marketing costs.
- Fresh seasonal produce available to members.
- A key concept behind CSA is that members are sharing the risk of agricultural production; by paying up front and risking that in a dry year or because of insect damage, yield may be lower than expected. (Herbs and flowers will often be added to the box during these times).
- Protects agricultural diversity - diversity of food
- Protects local farmland from urban development by helping small farms to remain economically viable.
- Reduces waste created in marketing, packaging and transport
- Farmers can focus on producing quality food through environmentally sustainable farming practices,
- CSA is not just about growing food, rather providing a service which involves delivery of food, newsletters and social functions.

Challenges

- A wide range of skills are required by the farmers such as an ability to manage a commercial fruit and vegetable farm, with a large number of crops continually at different stages of development, well developed people skills and, in most cases, a commitment to organic and/or sustainable farming practices.
- Having enough customers who are committed to the philosophy of CSA, not just interested in home delivered groceries.
- Education and promotion is a key factor in keeping members satisfied.
- Without proper understanding some members could complain if the box is a little light on one week.
- Establishing a CSA requires people with a wide range of skills - in terms of being able to farm, market, accounting etc. Perhaps we can utilise existing enterprises such as the Grower's Market to promote these services therefore taking away some of the pressures associated with this type of Model.

Further information

- Food Connect: Food Connect is a Brisbane-based model of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). It is an organisation with a focus not just on providing fabulous fresh food, but also on improving the lot of farmers, our communities and the environment. The produce from Food Connect is all sourced from within a five-hour radius of Brisbane which allows the freshness to be retained. Any green vegetables have been picked with the shortest time frame being possible between picking and delivery. They pack boxes with a mix of standard, fortnightly and seasonal produce. This means our farmers are not forced to grow out of season allowing less chemical use. One of the side benefits in developing a CSA enterprise is that our farmers can start to trial grow a huge variety of produce that over the years has disappeared from the dinner table. This has largely come about as a result of the supermarkets and large agribusiness controlling the markets for their own benefits. <http://www.foodconnect.com.au/>
- Community Supported Agriculture, A Feasibility Study for Australian Producers, Greg Cahill, et al. 2002. (Available from DPI).
- A Guide for the Establishment of Community Supported Agriculture Farms in Victoria, 2004. (Available from DPI).
- United States Department of Agriculture – National Agricultural Library. – CSA Resources for Farmers <http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/pubs/csa/csafarmer.shtml>
- Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education <http://www.sare.org/index.htm>
- Soil Association: Assistance for Community Supported Agriculture <http://www.soilassociation.org/csa>

Micro Credit for Small Scale Farms

Small scale farming enterprises bring a range of benefits from providing local food security and employment; being more efficient and productive than large-scale farming; creating strong local community networks and increased access to food which is also more equitable.

One large impediment to more people becoming involved in this aspect of the local food supply chain is the start-up costs for small scale farming projects such as market gardens. Typically, interested people will have the land available (or access to land) but are resource poor.

The provision of micro credit, low or no-interest loans to small scale farmers could be one way to overcome this barrier.

Benefits

- Relatively small amount of money can be continuously recycled into the scheme to provide access to funds for a section of the community to create food, employment and a stronger sense of community.
- People not normally able to access finance can have the opportunity to grow their business.

Challenges

- Mainstream banks have in the past struggled to make affordable small loans programs a commercially viable part of their business.
- Perceived high start-up administration costs to create a low interest loan scheme.
- Low take-up rates
- Concerns about comparatively high rates of default and risks posed by the recovery of debts.
- The administrative structures required to manage the delivery of funds and receiving of repayments.
- The current no-interest loan providers are typically focused on personal loans for low-income earners for general household items.
- The level of need for micro-financing is unquantified in Coffs Coast region, further investigation required on level of financing required by individuals and the number of individuals interested.
- Evaluation of the ability to service loan repayments varies depending on if farming enterprise is main source of income or secondary stream.

In Australia, there are a small number of commercial and not-for-profit organisations that currently provide micro financing options that the LFA could explore to identify how best to provide access by local small scale farmers to micro financing.

Further Information:

- *NAB Microenterprise Loans*: NAB Microenterprise Loans are unsecured business loans of between \$500 and \$20,000 for people on low incomes who have few or no avenues to access affordable business credit. The loans are provided on a not-for-profit basis and are available to help start up or support an existing business of five or fewer employees. Liability for the loan sits with the applicant, not the business. NAB also ensures loan recipients get access to business skills training and advice during the first year of their business.
http://www.nab.com.au/wps/wcm/connect/nab/nab/home/about_us/4/3/2
- *Tasmanian Micro-credit program*: The Micro-Credit Program is a joint program run by the Department of Economic Development, the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Women Tasmania, Mission Australia the No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS) network of Australia. The program assists people on low incomes (Health care card holders) by providing business mentoring support and small interest-free loans. A maximum loan of \$3000 may be available

to assist with business start-up or expansion.

http://www.development.tas.gov.au/business/list_of_small_business_programs_and_services/women_in_business_micro_credit_program

- *Foresters ANA Mutual Society*: Foresters has several Micro Finance activities which enable people to have more control over their money and their lives, and encourages the concept of self-help as well as helping others. Mutual funds - This is a contributory rotating loan system. Individuals deposit a minimum of \$10 per month into the fund and after 6 months are eligible for a loan of up to \$250. On a sliding scale, the maximum loan after 2 years is \$2000. These are no interest loans. New members are generally referred by current members.
- *No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS)*: Good Shepherd Sisters of Victoria support the provision of NILS® to low-income earners throughout Australia. The NILS® NSW Network was set up approx eight years ago to assist organisations in NSW with setting up and running their NILS® program. The Network also provides annual training and information forums. Community groups, such as Neighbourhood Centres or Charities, run 'No Interest Loan Schemes' (NILS®) to assist with this problem. A typical NILS® loan is around \$800 - \$1200 for whitegoods, furniture, medical appliances or any other essential household item. The Nambucca Valley Community Service Council have run a NILS from 2000. Initially, \$65,000 was allocated and has been continually recycled to allow for 265 loans for essential items totalling over \$240,000.
<http://www.nilsnsw.org.au/>
- *Bendigo Bank*: Will review business financing of unsecured loans up to \$20,000 on a case by case basis.
- *USDA Farm Service Agency*
In the United States the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is a combination of agencies, one of which had its purpose providing credit to lower income, lower equity beginning farmers unable to get a loan elsewhere. This is now one of the primary purposes of the FSA, making the agency one of the first places a beginning farmer should look when needing credit.
http://www.cfra.org/resources/Publications/Beg_Farmer_loan_programs.htm
- BCU: Opportunity to discuss with BCU if they would consider establishing a Micro-Credit program given that they started with local Banana Farmers pooling their dollars and helping grow the local agricultural industry.

Local Food Directory / Database

A directory of Local Food Producers to raise the profile of Coffs Coast food and beverage producers with commercial and individual consumers so that they can be more assured of a secure economic future.

A directory would provide information and access to the wealth of food and beverages being produced in the region. The directory should be a 'must have' for the region's chefs, wholesalers, shops and individual food consumers. By using this directory and supporting our local farmers, wineries and value-adders consumers are helping them to look after their futures and that of our beautiful hinterland.

The directory could be accessible either a printed or internet based searchable database (or both). Opportunities exist to link this to the Farm Gate Trail project and community education and awareness plans.

Benefits

- Local producers benefit by being promoted to new domestic and business customers.
- Consumers gain from being better informed about local food and how it is produced.
- The list of producers becomes a baseline for assessing growth in the local food sector.
- Agencies can use the directory to contact local food producers to participate in promotions and local initiatives.
- A well-produced directory can be a good “advert” for the local food sector and indeed for the overall identity of an area.
- Directories will also reach consumers and feature producers who do not attend farmers’ markets.

Challenges

- Local food directories are generally produced on fairly modest budgets, and resources for checking each entry independently are unlikely to be available.
- Finding and verifying content of entries.
- Some directories include a “self-verifying” condition by which all businesses with an entry must be open to inspection by customers, and/or phone queries about production methods, origin of fattening stock or ingredients, etc.
- The budget for a directory will need to cover for printing, distribution, and postage as well as collation of the information.
- Keeping the directory information up-to-date on an on-going basis.

Further Information:

- *Maroochy Enterprising Food*: Directory of Food & Beverage Producers in the Maroochy Hinterland. Developed by the Maroochy Rural Enterprise Project Manager, Economic Development Branch Maroochy Shire Council. www.businessmaroochy.com/mrep
- *Big Barn*: A UK site that aims to link consumers with producers through a searchable database and interactive map (based on Google maps) <http://www.bigbarn.co.uk/> . Also provides info on seasonal produce, recipes.
- *Hawkesbury Harvest*: Regional Produce Guide available on the internet which lists info about the producer, when the product is in season and where to find them on the map or where to buy the produce if not at the farm. Other details such as facilities and opening times if part of the Farm Gate Trail. <http://hawkesburyharvest.com.au/home.asp>
- *The Sunshine Coast Local Harvest*: An online, searchable database of fine food & produce. There are over 100 listings of local food and wine producers. Local Harvest has been designed and created as an initiative by Petra Frieser who runs a small Sunshine Coast based business dedicated to supporting the local community. <http://www.localharvest.com.au/>

Farm Gate Trail

The Farm Gate Trail is a marketing initiative that aims to promote and strengthen our local Food Sector, whilst creating greater tourist numbers to the Coffs Coast Hinterland through encouraging the local and outside tourist market to explore more of the Hinterland region. Would involve a map with suggested tour route and the list of participating farms and their details.

Benefits

- Increase consumer access to nutritious, safe foods while developing the opportunity for agri-based tourism
- Encourage Farmers to diversify and potentially yield an income from the tourist industry therefore increasing the viability of their land.
- Making the general public more aware of what our region has to offer and the benefits involved in supporting the local agricultural industry.

Challenges

- Balancing the needs and time of the farmer with regards to growing and selling / attending farm gate sales or tours.

Further Information

- *Hawkesbury Harvest Farm Gate Trail*: A Tourism venture aimed to increase tourism and consumption of local produce in the area. Interactive and Downloadable maps of the region that highlight farms open to the public, wine trail, accommodation, pick your own. <http://hawkesburyharvest.com.au/home.asp>
- *Margaret River Food and Wine Trail*: A project of the Margaret River Regional Producers Association. Includes info on Farm Gate and Cellar door sales as well as local produce available at retail outlets and restaurants. <http://www.margaretriver.asn.au/Food%20and%20Wine%20Trail>
- *Mornington Peninsula Gourmet From Harvest to Table*: A Food Trail map and guide providing info about food producers, accommodation and dining experiences. http://www.mpgourmet.com.au/pdf/MPG_FoodMap08.pdf
- *Tropical Tastes Food and Wine Trail*: The Walkamin/Mareeba section of the Atherton Tablelands in Queensland is classed as the Food & Wine Trail area. There are a variety of wineries, distilleries and coffee plantations involved. Appears most info on this is available only from the Tourist Information Centre as the website only has a written description of the trail. <http://www.athertontablelands.com.au/pages/tropical-tastes-food-wine-trail/>
- *South Burnett Wine and Food Trail*: The South Burnett features some of the largest vineyards and wineries in Queensland through to smaller boutique cellar doors and distilleries. With over thirteen cellar doors in the region there is a wide variety of properties for guests to visit. The Trail comprises of a map indicating the various wineries located in the region. <http://www.tourism.southburnett.com.au/mapwine.htm>
- *Niagara Culinary Trail*: A Canadian example of a culinary trail which has a map, events, directory. <http://www.niagaraculinarytrail.com>

Buy Local – Branding of Local Produce

The creation of a local brand would provide consumers with the assurance that they are supporting the local food industry by purchasing quality Coffs Coast produce and products that are made from local ingredients.

A co-ordinated and comprehensive consumer marketing campaign would support the program and ensure consumer confidence in the label. Some regions have included a design competition to develop the logo as a way of raising awareness.

Benefits

- Growers and producers able to meet customer demand for clearly labelled products and reduce doubt or confusion in the market place.
- Provide a point of product differentiation from imported products.

Challenges

- Certification or verification of product claims.
- The integrity of the logo or brand is dependent on the claims being made by growers.
- Community awareness of the benefits of buying local.
- Accessibility, the more convenient it is to buy local the more people will opt to buy Coffs Coast rather than from somewhere else.

Further Information:

- *Buy West, Eat Best*: A scheme aimed at providing Western Australian consumers and the WA food industry with a food-specific brand to clearly identify food products that are indeed Western Australian. <http://www.buywesteatbest.wa.gov.au>
- *Food Barossa*: Food Barossa is a regional food brand that has been developed by a local group of enthusiastic food producers and consumers. These people use the Food Barossa brand to promote the region's distinctive food. <http://www.foodbarossa.com/home.html>
- *Flavours of King Island*: have developed an awareness of their food products. The name King Island has become synonymous with high quality dairy and beef products as well as seafood. <http://www.kingisland.org.au/Default.asp?ID=7>
- *Local food not a key purchase driver for majority*, Daniel Palmer March 13, 2009. Australian Food News <http://www.ausfoodnews.com.au/2009/03/13/local-food-not-a-key-priority-for-majority.html>
- *Mornington Peninsula Gourmet*: The Mornington Peninsula Gourmet (MPGourmet) regional food group has developed the MPGourmet logo to help tourists and locals explore the gourmet produce the Mornington Peninsula has to offer. <http://www.mpgourmet.com.au/gourmetproduce.asp>
- Buy Local Branding opportunity to link or use the existing Coffs Coast Tourism Brand. There is already a Coffs Coast Brand with the slogan at the bottom 'Field, Farm and Ocean Fresh'.

- Buy Fresh, Buy Local Food Routes Network is a non-profit organization based in Pennsylvania that provides communications tools, organizing support, and marketing resources to our grassroots chapters throughout the US that are working to rebuild local food systems and promote sustainable agriculture. Buy Fresh Buy Local chapters are connecting consumers in communities throughout the country to the freshest, most delicious locally grown and produced foods available. Through outreach events, local food guides, and educational materials, Buy Fresh, Buy Local makes it easy for consumers to find and connect with local food from farmers they can know and trust. <http://www.foodroutes.org/buy-fresh-buy-local.jsp>
- Journey of Flavours: is a brand for the Hastings Region of NSW, which represents quality products and services in the food and beverage sector. It is an accreditation program for businesses and a promotional campaign to raise awareness.

Seasonal Produce Guide

A seasonal produce guide is another way of raising consumer awareness of what fruits and vegetables they can expect to be in bountiful supply in their local markets. Most seasonal produce guides are linked to other regional initiatives such as Local Food Directories, Buy Local Brands or Food and Wine Trails.

Benefits

- Raises consumer awareness about seasonal produce.
- Creates an acceptance of the availability of fruit and vegetables at different times of the year.
- Reconnects people with their local farmers.
- Reduces expectations of being able to eat any produce whenever consumers desire.
- Increases consumer awareness about what can be grown in the region.

Challenges

- Collating the information initially
- Providing different access points for this information for a range of target markets.
- The Seasonal guides from the large markets (e.g. Sydney and Melbourne) provide info on produce that may be in season in any part of Australia. Not specifically local information.

Further Information:

- *Sydney Markets*: Sydney Markets supply quality fresh fruit & vegetable. The seasonal brochures below will give you top tips, quick meals, best buys and nutritional advice for fruit and vegetables in season. Brochures available in PDF http://www.sydneymarkets.com.au/documents/Seasonal/2009_Autumn_Fresh_Seasonal_Guide.pdf
- *Market Fresh*: Market Fresh is a business established by the Melbourne Market Authority (MMA) in 2005. The MMA is responsible for managing the Melbourne Markets, the state of Victoria's central wholesale market for fruit, vegetables and flowers. An online planner automatically identifies items that are in season (anywhere in Australia) for the period you select. http://www.marketfresh.com.au/produce_guide/seasons.asp

- Hawkesbury Harvest: An interactive calendar on the website that lists type of produce, seasonal information and supplier details.
http://hawkesburyharvest.com.au/farmgate_seasonal.asp
- *Mornington Peninsula*: The MPGourmet Seasonal Produce Guide gives you all the essentials at a glance. Lists the MPGourmet members that grow and make each type of produce, when it is in season and links to their contact details. Online searchable database.
<http://www.mpgourmet.com.au/productSeasonGuide.asp>

Food Processing

The growing internationalisation of food retail and processing presents significant opportunities and threats for Australia's food processing and manufacturing industry. It is predicted that five supermarket chains will dominate world food retail within a few years.

Increasingly, food is purchased in pre-prepared combinations, such as ready-to-eat lasagne or salad with dressing. This trend will see states import more of their own inputs from overseas or interstate unless local companies can adapt to meet local demand.

As large-scale international supply chains develop, niche markets for speciality foods are also growing rapidly. A large market is growing for organic or clean and green' products. Niche markets of this kind can themselves be very large and still have the same year-round reliability of supply requirements of the mainstream supply chains.

Food processing has the potential to increase impact in the regional economy and could be conducted on a small to medium scale on the Coffs Coast. The opportunities include such diverse components as: meat processing; cheese processing; yoghurt and other milk products; small goods processing and canning; fish processing; secondary processing of horticulture products such as potatoes.

There are a range of potential areas that could be developed such as business enterprises for new migrants to produce traditional sauces using local produce, a cooperative commercial kitchen to help start up costs for new value added products; cold storage facilities to support an expanding food sector.

Benefits

- Increase efficiency and reduce wastage of seasonal produce.
- Increase jobs and diversify regional economy.
- A small percentage increase in food processing results in a large increase in revenue and new job creation.
- Potential for expansion of regional produce into the high profile gourmet niche markets.
- Diversity of the food production sector presents opportunities for development in packaged foods such as gourmet meals.
- Development of these organic products developed and sold in different forms will generate new market potential.
- There is potentially a niche market for restaurants that are willing to develop the concept of "value adding" further. Participating restaurants could be promoted as part of the local tourist industry for that region and could feature 'the valued added' produce as part of their menu.

Challenges

- Currently food processing is a small cottage industry in the region.
- Skills and knowledge of growers is limited.
- Growers are not necessarily interested in value adding to their products.
- New businesseslack the skills...
- Increased focus on employee training in the food processing and manufacturing sector will provide benefits in terms of improved food safety and quality assurance.
- Food retail outlets, particularly supermarkets, continue to demand more stringent food safety requirements than even those mandated by government. Early adoption of high standards will give local products market advantage and deliver enhanced consumer benefit.
- The capacity of industry to access appropriate new technologies is vital. Niche industries generally have to develop manufacturing technologies specific to products by modifying technologies from major industries or developing one-off' equipment.
- Markets for processed food products are likely to grow based on a continuing expansion of demand from restaurants and fast-food outlets for pre-prepared ingredients. There is also strong consumer demand for home-cooking convenience.

Further information:

- *Outback Pride*: The Outback Pride Project is promoting the Australian native food industry by developing a network of production sites within traditional Aboriginal communities. The cultivation of Australian native food provides indigenous Australians with jobs and training in horticulture and the food industry. In this way, the project also acknowledges the intellectual property of the traditional uses of bush foods. <http://www.outbackpride.com.au/project/>
- *Food Processing and Supply: Queensland Government site.*
<http://www.industry.qld.gov.au/dsdweb/v4/apps/web/content.cfm?id=5476>
- *Brendan Lethlean: The Potential of Value Added Organic Produce in the Mainstream Marketplace* ISS Institute Inc, February 2008
http://www.issinstitute.org.au/pdfs/report_execsum_lethlean.pdf

Community Education and Awareness Raising

Local Food Groups or associations are primarily involved in the development and organisation of a range of education and awareness raising activities aimed at increasing consumer knowledge and participation in the local food supply chain.

Activities include:

- Opportunities for Networking e.g. Social Networking sites
- Newsletters
- Films Events
- Local Food Dinners
- Swap shops
- Event Calendar
- General Information Sharing

This can be achieved through the regular activities of the group as well as through other media such as websites, newspapers, radio campaigns etc. Refer to other sections for detailed info e.g. Food Groups, Seasonal Produce Guide.

Benefits

- Increase in awareness creates an increase in demand for local food.
- People are armed with more information to make more informed choices about food consumption.
- Increased awareness may lead to increased participation in events, programs such as the community gardens.

Challenges

- Wide range of demographics for the target audience are hard to reach in a uniform manner, will require a range of approaches to be used.

Further Information

- Examples are mostly generated from Local Food networks such as Illawarra Food Fairness, Sydney Food Fairness Alliance.

Food Groups / Associations / Alliances / Networks

Growers and producers around Australia have formed themselves into organisations that aim to promote local produce and products. These are varied organisations that have similar aims and purposes but may be formed from different beginnings such as tourism or sustainability. Sydney and Illawarra Alliances came from a primary focus of food security.

Their aims are generally to:

- Promote a regional identify for local products.
- Encourage new regional producers or processors into the market.
- Marketing of the regions products to locals, Australia and Internationally.
- Encourage and assist in the growing, breeding, production and or manufacture of produce in the specific areas.

The groups achieve these aims through a range of activities from being involved in the Local Growers Markets, hosting Long Lunches, providing awards promoting the use of local produce, event calendars, information networks, Movie nights, local food dinners, newsletters and other events.

Benefits

- Provides a focal point for all activities and knowledge sharing.
- Allows the group to tap into the particular skills of individuals or organisations.
- A central group of people committed to one overall vision.

- Contributes to a more networked and close nit community.
- Provides the opportunity to seek funding for specific projects.

Challenges

- Coordination of the group requires time and resources.
- Difficult to depend exclusively on volunteers for an extended period of time.
- The structure of the group and how it functions needs to reflect the local needs.

Further Information

- *Bellingen Local Food Network* The Bellingen Local Food Network was founded in November 2007 by a group of Bellingen residents motivated by the need to work together co-operatively to maximise the production, distribution and consumption of locally-produced non-chemical fruit and vegetables.
- *Mornington Peninsula Gourmet*: MPGourmet is a regional food group that has grown from small beginnings in November 2000. Initially started as a local tourism association, MPGourmet has expanded its role to provide network opportunities for wholesale business and industry development. Membership has grown markedly and the rapid increase is set to continue with the exploding interest in quality food experiences and the realization that MPGourmet is helping to create this interest. MPGourmet is now a dynamic local tourism association with a diverse membership including primary producers, food manufacturers, boutique caterers, restaurants & cafes, gourmet retail outlets, and others passionate about the wonderful food of the Mornington Peninsula. <http://www.mpgourmet.com.au/>
- *Margaret River Regional Producers Association*: A tourism and marketing tool. http://www.margaretriver.com/accom_result1/margaret-river-regional-producers-association/
- *Illawarra Food Fairness*: The alliance is made up of a broad range of organisations and individuals from the community with different interests who share a common goal of enabling access to a sustainable and healthy food supply for all. Members include Healthy Cities Illawarra, local councils, University of Wollongong, SESI Health, The Cancer Council, NSW, community centres, food aid groups and welfare services, community gardens, school garden programs and interested community members. Our key areas of interest are advocating for: food security, sustainable agriculture and food systems, the vital role of local/regional food production and supporting local welfare and community groups who work with people experiencing food insecurity. <http://www.healthycitiesill.org.au/foodfairness.htm>
- *Sydney Food Fairness Alliance*: SFFA formed in Sydney in 2005 to coordinate the efforts of rural producers, health professionals, community workers and community-based advocates active in developing a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable food system in the Sydney region. <http://www.sydneyfoodfairness.org.au/alliance.html>
- *Community Harvest Project* The Community Harvest Project is an initiative of the Hills Organic Box Scheme (HOBS) and the Yarra Valley Permaculture Group. The Project will work with individuals and groups to identify and map existing local food resources, increase the supply of local, sustainably produced food and connect people with the resources they need, to ensure access to healthy, affordable food, for everyone. http://www.communityharvestproject.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2&Itemid=3
- *Network for Sustainable and Diversified Agriculture*: The Network for Sustainable and Diversified Agriculture is not for profit organization. The purpose of the network is to collectively coordinate, promote and advocate activities and

information that will assist in the implementation of the principles of sustainable and diversified agriculture, to benefit the economic, environmental and social development of North Queensland. The Network for Sustainable and Diversified Agriculture (NSDA) has adopted the cluster principle for its operations and information dissemination. The structure and function of the Network is reliant mainly on member volunteers who are supported by a Management Committee made up of representatives of a number of Cluster Groups, each of which represents one specific focus of the Network. The Cluster Groups include Tropical Foods, Biotechnology, Cut Flower and Native Foliage, Organic Producers, Forestry, Research, Education, Marketing and Value Adding, Conservation, and Commerce www.nsga.org.au

Edible Gardens – Permablitz

Fritz Haeg initiated the first Edible Estate in the USA on 4 July 2005. He is an architect and artist whose project proposed the replacement of the domestic front lawn with a highly productive edible landscape. The planting of a regional prototype garden was in the geographic centre of the United States, Salina, Kansas. Since then three more prototype gardens have been created, two in the States and one in London.

Many Councils around Australia provide programs that support residents in the conversion of front and backyards into edible gardens. The assistance ranges from:

- Information sheets on gardening, composting, worm farms etc
- Workshops on how to create vegetable patches e.g. no-dig gardens
- Competitions for best Eco/Vegetable Garden

Permablitz is a structured form of assistance that started in April 2006 with a collaboration between permaculture students and a South American community group in the South-Eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Australia. Since then, over 40 permablitzes have been held and permablitz has gained an international reputation as a successful tool for fast-tracking the suburbs towards sustainability.

A permablitz is: an informal gathering involving a day on which a group of at least two people come together to achieve the following:

- create or add to edible gardens where someone lives
- share skills related to permaculture and sustainable living
- build community networks
- have fun

Each permablitz is part of a longer process including a pre-blitz design visit or visits, prior organisation of materials needed for the blitz, and after the blitz follow up visits to see how people are going with their new gardens. This means that permablitzes stay true to permaculture design, which is always an extended process in which all action is informed by prior observation and reflection.

Benefits

- Greater access to fresh fruits and vegetables to the wider community
- Increased understanding of seasonal foods

Challenges

- Coordination time required
- Skills base for coordinators not only includes horticulture/permaculture but also management of community groups.
- Resource intensive

Further Information

- *US Agriculture Department*: Feb 2009 started its own garden, one that will include fruits and vegetables to be donated to the city's soup kitchens. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack jack hammered a spot in the black asphalt outside the Whitten building to prepare the ground. It is part of an effort by the Obama administration to get people to grow some of their own food. 19 February 2009. <http://www.energybulletin.net/node/48162>
- *Greater Dandenong Edible Gardens*: The project helps individuals, and families set up their own edible home gardens. The project gives advice on how to design your garden to minimise water use and make it more environmentally friendly. It is a great opportunity for people to produce cheap home grown vegetables, herbs and fruit. Experts provide the advice and skills needed to design a great food garden using sustainable living principles. Events, like a 'backyard blitz', are organised where family, friends, neighbours and volunteers come together to build the food garden and spend time together, making it a great a great way to meet people from the local community. The project is sponsored by Dandenong Development Board in partnership with the City of Greater Dandenong, Sustainability Victoria and the Department of Planning and Community Development. www.dandenong.permablitz.net
- *Gold Coast City Council*: Garden Competition, One category is for Eco/Vegetable Gardens which is sponsored by Gold Coast City Council Waste Management Unit Gardens/vegetable gardens that are eco-friendly, self sufficient and sustainable e.g.: gardens that reuse, recycle, compost, worm farm and use companion gardening. http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/t_news_item.aspx?pid=6172
- *Permablitz* <http://www.permablitz.net/>

Food Production on Public Land

The conversion of public land or existing public ornamental gardens to plants that provide food, herbs or medicinal properties. Produce is distributed amongst the individuals or organisations who maintain the land or given to charity groups.

There are numerous ways of converting public land into food production. For example, a communal garden on a roadside verge with all neighbours taking what they need. This can be supported by the neighbours with things such as a "Garden Tool Library" where neighbours share gardening equipment rather than buying it.

Benefits

- Emphasises the importance of re-localisation of food production in the global context of peak oil and climate change
- Highlights the benefits of backyard food growing as a measure to improve personal sustainability (including composting)
- Showcases the benefits of eating locally and seasonally
- Provides information about organic methods of food production.
- Increased access / affordability of healthy foods for disadvantaged groups

Challenges

- Potentially increases maintenance required of the garden beds.
- Vandalism of unattended, unprotected sites.
- Coordination of volunteer groups to maintain the vegetable patches.
- Support from owners of public land (Councils, State or Federal Government)
- Costs involved in verge side vegetable patches and arguments over produce (see Cottesloe)

Further Information

- *Edible Landscapes*: The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects has developed guidelines on creating Edible Landscapes. <http://www.aila.org.au/sustainablecanberra/005-fern/guide.htm>
- *Food Production on Public Land Project*: Byron Shire Council's has developed a which aims to trial the replacement of standard ornamental landscaping plants with edible species as a model to assist in the re-localisation of our food systems and provide an alternative to global, corporate food distribution systems. The Project also encourages householders to grow more in the backyard. More information about the project can be found at: www.byron.nsw.gov.au/foodproduction
- *Djanbung Gardens*: A botanic gardens of useful, economic and cultural plants within a working permaculture system. Public Landscapes around the main building are designed as edible landscapes and to support the passive solar functions of the building. Mulch meadows provide important open space for recreation and events, and are a constant source of mulch for gardens and green feed for the animals. http://www.permaculture.com.au/central/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=82:edible-landscapes-a-gardens&catid=66&Itemid=79
- *Geelong Botanical Garden*: http://www.geelongcity.vic.gov.au/Visiting_Geelong/Parks_and_Gardens/Geelong_Botanic_Gardens/The_Edible_Garden/
- *Cottesloe Council: Concerns over management of verge side vegetable patches* <http://slowfoodaustralia.com.au/2008/11/cottesloe-verge-o-crats-propose-vegetable-tax/>

Wholesale Market or Regular Produce Market

Wholesale markets are where growers send or take their produce for sale to greengrocers and other fresh retailers, restaurants, wholesalers and providedores. Most central markets operate during the early hours of the morning so that produce can be delivered out fresh each day to meet consumers needs for market fresh produce.

Coffs Harbour could capitalise on its central location between Sydney and Brisbane to create a local wholesale market that services an area from Port Macquarie to Byron.

Benefits

- Increased turnover of local produce into our local markets.
- Attraction of external buyers and sellers into the region.
- Reduced transportation of fresh produce

Challenges

- Effect on existing markets and wholesalers
- Potentially large capital expenditure to establish
- Feasibility study required to identify capacity of local producers to service a larger wholesale market

Further Information

- Sydney Markets: <http://www.sydneymarkets.com.au>
- Melbourne Market Authority: <http://www.melbournemarkets.com.au>
- Sunshine Coast Regional Council feasibility Study : <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/09/12/2362798.htm?site=sunshine>

Local Food Co-operative

Food Cooperatives are generally produce stores set up as consumers cooperatives. A consumers' cooperative is a cooperative business owned by its customers for their mutual benefit. It is a form of free enterprise that is oriented toward service rather than pecuniary profit. The customers or consumers of the goods and/or services the business provides are often also the individuals who have provided the capital required to launch or purchase that enterprise.

Large consumers' co-ops are run much like any other business and require workers, managers, clerks, products, and customers to keep the doors open and the business running. In smaller businesses the consumer/owners are often workers as well. Consumers' cooperatives can differ greatly in start up and also in how the co-op is run.

Benefits

- An outlet for locally grown produce

- Increase accessibility and affordability of fresh produce
- Co-ops use the collective resources of its members to achieve the running of our store.

Challenges

- Impact on existing for-profit enterprises
- Dependent on the energy and enthusiasm of members.
- Investigation into the feasibility of a Food Cooperative required to gauge interest and sustainability of an enterprise.
- Management of the cooperative subject to normal issues faced by democratic systems.

Further Information

- University of Sydney: <http://www.usydfoodcoop.org.au>
- Newtown: www.alfalfahouse.org
- University of NSW <http://thoughtfulfoods.org.au>
- Manly: www.manlyfoodcoop.org
- Katoomba www.bluemtnsfood.asn.au

Linking Local Producers with Local Restaurants

Increasing the awareness of local chefs as to locally available produce and increasing access to that produce is one key way of strengthening the local food supply chain.

Ways this is done include:

- Expos
- Showcase Lunches e.g. Long Lunch Events
- Buyers Group to liaise between growers and restaurants

Benefits

- Chefs have increased knowledge about locally grown produce, when it is in season and how best to use it.
- Increased consumption of local produce in our restaurants.

Challenges

- Raising awareness does not address the issues of ease of access to produce. Chefs prefer to deal with one supplier (i.e. Wholesaler)
- Restaurants require continuity of supply and quality of supply to match their menus and customer expectations.

Further Information

- *Gate to Plate Event*: Clarence Valley Council
http://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au/content/uploads/080715_food_industry_to_flourish.pdf

School Based Vegetable Gardens

Support the uptake and ongoing use of school based vegetable gardens in our region.

Benefits

- A chance to positively influence children's food choices
- Encourages healthy eating habits from an early age
- Life-long skills in the kitchen and garden
- Introduction to and appreciation of fresh seasonal food
- Socialisation through team work, sharing a meal and working with volunteers
- Practical understanding of environmental sustainability
- Understanding the link between good food choices and optimum health
- Active, hands-on activity and exercise

Challenges

- Establishment costs and ongoing maintenance
- Participation by schools tends to be dependent on enthusiasm of individual teachers
- Competing with an already full timetable and requirements to link clearly into Key Learning Areas.

Further Information

- *Stephanie Alexanders Kitchen Garden Program*: Funding for the development of both food gardens and kitchen facilities within schools. The Government will provide grants of up to \$60,000 per school participating in the program to cover infrastructure costs associated with building kitchens and gardens. The next round of grants is expected to open in mid-2009. <http://www.healthylife.gov.au/internet/healthylife/publishing.nsf/Content/kitchen-garden>
- Kitchen Garden Foundation www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au

Centre for Small Scale Farming and Local Food Systems

An educational resource centre to assist local farmers and strengthen the local food system. Aim of this centre would be for the Coffs Coast to become recognised as a research centre and teaching facility that sources the latest information, researches case studies and provides access to research into best practice in local food economies.

This information will assist our local growers and the model can then be shared with other regions and also potentially become a destination for students from outside the area.

There are a wide range of areas this type of centre could explore, for example:

- Small Scale Farm management (including skill sets such as marketing, production, management, distribution etc)

- Value Adding
- Food Safety
- Food Processing
- Organic Agriculture and Permaculture
- Soil Improvements
- Bio-Char
- Post Harvest Handling
- Cooperatives

Potential Partners include:

- Department of Primary Industry
- Catchment Management Authority
- NCI TAFE
- Southern Cross University
- Community Colleges
- Biodynamics Australia
- Landcare Groups e.g. Bellingen Landcare and their Small Farm Network

Benefits

- Creates a centre of knowledge that can be a focal point for the industry.
- Improved access by local stakeholders

Challenges

- Identification of the educational needs of farmers, processors etc.
- Resources and staffing
- Infrastructure requirements
- Long-term commitment to create the centre.

Further Information

- *Small Farms Centre*. Based in California their vision is a Californian agriculture in which small and family farms remain a dynamic, viable component of the communities in which they operate. <http://www.sfc.ucdavis.edu/default.asp>
- *Centre for Information on Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture*: ILEIA finds, documents and publishes experiences on sustainable, small-scale farming. We believe experiences of this kind are important. After all, many people, especially in developing countries, depend on agriculture for their living. Their combined knowledge can help improve productivity, generate income, and empower farmers. Through LEISA Magazine, which has more than 17,000 subscribers, ILEIA reaches people in 150 countries. ILEIA is part of the global LEISA Network, whose member organisations all gather and share knowledge on sustainable small-scale farming. <http://ileia.leisa.info/>
- [Biological Farmers of Australia \(BFA\)](#) BFA is a not-for-profit organisation working on behalf of its members. The website provides details on training courses and workshops, latest industry research, how to get certified and a growing database for consumers on where to buy organic produce.

- [Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation \(RIRDC\)](#) RIRDC is the Australian Government's Organic Produce Research Program aims to promote the adoption of sustainable organic farming systems. The site provides details on research results and fact sheets.
- [The National Association of Sustainable Agriculture, Australia \(NASAA\)](#) NASAA is Australia's largest organic certifier, a non-profit company limited by guarantee comprised of members and certified operators. The site outlines steps on how to get certified, export requirements, information sheets and a product database of certified members.
- [The Organic Federation of Australia \(OFA\)](#) OFA is the peak body for the Australian organic sector. Growers can subscribe to a free monthly electronic newsletter, find out how to get certified, and lists details of any upcoming events and conferences on organic farming and related subjects.

Urban Planning For Local Food Systems

The possibilities of using the planning system for local food production outcomes are not immediately apparent. Traditionally, Planners within Councils (particularly smaller regional Councils) have focused upon the core functions of assessing Development Applications and writing plans that the applications are assessed against. Planning Departments do not manage the use of Council infrastructure or land and do not usually have budgets to undertake works.

There is however a growing movement that sees planners and the planning system as well suited to pursuing local food production opportunities. Planners are accustomed to consulting with numerous government agencies, consulting with the community and consulting with other departments within Councils. Therefore, they are well positioned to embark upon the interdisciplinary work needed to entrench local food production as a more central matter across the whole spectrum of community and government. As town planning evolved out of the need to ensure public health by separation of incompatible land uses, it could also be argued that it is now time for planning to recognise the threats that exist to future food supply and in the interests of public health, act to provide greater levels of food security for local communities.

There are numerous opportunities to explore such as setting aside land for food gardens in new development (similar to land being identified for car parking, clothes drying etc.), the collection of section 94 Contributions for community infrastructure related to local food production (e.g. a Community Garden) and the protection of land with high agricultural potential from development that may prevent its current or future use for that purpose.

Benefits

- Educates people as to importance of local food production when undertaking development.
- Introduces concept of local food production as a core site planning matter to be considered when undertaking new development.
- Provides an ongoing funding source for progressive installation of food production infrastructure.
- Can be linked with other educational activities regarding health and sustainability that Council may be undertaking.

Challenges

- Is only enacted when development occurs and therefore low development rates prevent uptake.
- Perceptions of additional cost or constraints on development.

Further Information

- Bellingen Shire Council; Draft Shire wide Development Control Plan will be on public exhibition from Thursday 3 June 2010 until Friday 2 July 2010 – view at: <http://www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au/council/5638/8204.html>
- The CHESSE Principles for Healthy Environments; An holistic and strategic game-plan for inter-sectoral policy and action. *Susan Thompson and Peter McCue*. Paper advocates inter-sectoral approach to creating healthy environments with reference to the importance of connected environments, healthy eating environments, safe environments and sustainable environments. Paper can be downloaded from PCAL website; http://www.pcal.nsw.gov.au/resources/evidence_papers.html
- *Creating Supportive Environments for Healthy Eating*, QLD Health , 2006

Farm Clusters and Farm Business Centres

Farm clusters are individually operated farms that are co-located within the same boundary. The Cluster is developed to share infrastructure, running costs, and expertise. This is similar to the Business Park concept in urban areas.

Farm Business Centres would provide business services specifically for farmers in the Cluster. Services would include finances, marketing, labour pool, machinery pool, business advice etc. The Centre would be owned by the farmers in the Cluster.

Benefits

- Sharing of resources reducing individual investment
- Sharing of skills and knowledge to increase profit across all farms
- Provide greater opportunities for employment in the regional economy
- Increased connection between farmers

Challenges

- Gaining interest from farmers.
- Complexity of structures or perceived equity of process.

Further Information

- Furracabad Farm Cluster Project
<http://www.ruralfutures.une.edu.au/projects/3.php?nav=Environmental%20Impacts%20of%2>

[OChange&page=27](#) Institute for Rural Futures, University of New England. Dr Graham Marshall
Phone: (02) 6773 3250 Email: gmarshall@une.edu.au

- Julian Lee, Biodynamic Farmer Hunter Valley Phone: 0403 013 366 Email: imagoforest@gmail.com

Food Systems Assessment

A Food Systems Assessment (FSA) is a practical and policy-oriented process that creates a locally-generated and locally-owned evidence and knowledge base of the key components and status of a local or regional food system. It creates a base-line of data that can be used to inform actions and policies in a range of sectors, and be monitored over time to track changes in the status of the food system.

The idea of a 'food system' brings together all the individuals, institutions and practices around food and agriculture that are currently fragmented across multiple spheres of government, business and society. Thus, a 'food system' is said to embrace the entirety of the practices and institutions connected with the five 'spheres' of the system: *production* (agriculture / horticulture / education), *processing* (manufacture / value-adding), *distribution* (transport / storage / wholesale / retail / markets / restaurants), *consumption* (cooking / food security / diet-related ill-health / education) and *waste management* (composting / recycling / land-fill).

The aim of a Food System Assessment is:

- To provide a 'comprehensive picture of the current state of the food system'
- To 'increase community awareness of and participation in food-related projects'
- To 'set priorities and goals to improve the local food system'

Benefits

- Food security – promote understanding how the food system does or does not contribute to the health and well-being of the community;
- Local / regional economic development – support greater consumption of local / regional produce;
- Preserve the region's agricultural 'foodshed';
- Public education, awareness-raising and capacity building;
Support regional food production initiatives (e.g. enhance the viability of small & medium-sized farmers); and
- Reduce waste in the food system.

Challenges

- Data collection is resource intensive.
- Setting appropriate indicators and developing data collection methods to obtain the required information
- Gathering participation from key stakeholders, especially those with access to relevant data

Further Information

- British Columbia Guide to Food Systems Assessments (2007)
- Oakland Food Systems Assessment (2006)

Food Policy Council

A Food Policy Council (FPC) consists of a group of representatives and stakeholders, ideally from the five sectors of the food system.

These representatives often include food justice advocates, educators, non-profit organisations, concerned citizens, government officials, farmers, grocers, chefs, workers, food processors and distributors.

FPCs create an opportunity for discussion and strategy development among these various interests, and create an arena for studying the food system as a whole.

One of the main aims of a FPC is to overcome the fragmentation of Food Policy across multiple sectors: e.g. transport, health, education, agriculture, development, and social security.

Generally their purpose is to identify and propose innovative solutions to improve local or state food systems, spurring local economic development and making food systems more environmentally sustainable & socially just. They provide the following functions:

- A forum for discussing food issues;
- Fosters coordination between diverse sectors;
- Evaluates and influences policy; and
- Launches or supports programs and services that address local and regional needs

Benefits

- improved public health through improved access to fresh food, and to a better quality of food;
- capacity to impact and shape state and national policy;
- achieves functional coherence across disparate sectors;
- mainstream local food policy; and
- boost local economies & combat poverty

More information:

- Food Policy Councils: Lessons Learned Alethea Harper, Annie Shattuck, Eric Holt-Gimenez, Alison Alkon, Frances Lambrick, FoodFirst, www.foodfirst.org;
[http://www.foodfirst.org/files/pdf/Food Policy Councils Report small.pdf](http://www.foodfirst.org/files/pdf/Food%20Policy%20Councils%20Report%20small.pdf)

Appendix E – Endnotes

¹ ACF (2008, p.vi)

² Rosset, P., 2000, **Lessons from the Green Revolution**, FoodFirst Institute for Food and Development Policy, <http://www.foodfirst.org/media/opeds/2000/4-greenrev.html>. The cost-price squeeze leads to a dynamic of 'get big or get out', hence the number of farms in the US has declined by two-thirds since World War II – over 4 million farmers have abandoned their businesses - while average farm size has doubled during the same period; *see also* Aglieri, M., 2005, **The Myth of Coexistence: Why Transgenic Crops Are Not Compatible with Agro-ecologically Based Systems of Production**, *Bulletin of Science, Technology and Society* 25(4), 361-371, 366

³ In **Australian Agriculture: Its History and its Challenges** (CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood), Ted Henzell notes the impacts of this 'cost-price squeeze': Australian farmers'by 1999-2000...needed to produce more than four times the volume to earn, in real terms, only just over half of what they had done in 1951-52": ix-x.

⁴ Lagura, E., and Ronan, G., 2009, **How Profitable is Farm Business in Australia? An interpretation of ABARE broadacre and dairy industries' farm performance data and some implications for public policy**, http://www.agrifood.info/connections/2009/Lagura_Ronan.html.

⁵ Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (2008)

⁶ The Australian government has been conducting a comprehensive review of drought policy, examining trends in recent decades and making projections. In July 2008 a team of scientists from CSIRO and the Bureau of Meteorology released *An Assessment of the Impact of Climate Change on the Nature and Frequency of Exceptional Climate Events*, available at:http://www.daff.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/721285/csiro-bom-report-future-droughts.pdf.

⁷ Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, **National Agriculture & Climate Change Action Plan: 2006-2009**, <http://www.daff.gov.au/climatechange>.

⁸ The latest figures from the ABS are for 2004-5. Total 'use' was actually 80,000 gigitalitres, but 75% of this was returned to the environment. After agriculture, the next biggest consumers are households and the water supply industry (each 11%), followed by other industries (7.4%), manufacturing (3%) and mining (2%). Due to the reduction in rice and cotton crops agriculture's share fell 14% between 2000-2005, whilst mining industry consumption increased by 29%: <http://www.nwc.gov.au/www/html/236-water-use-in-australia.asp>.

⁹ <http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/www/html/1583-climate-change.asp>.

¹⁰ For example, the average price of a litre of petrol in Queensland rose from 51 cents in 1986 to \$1.22 in 2009, with a spike to \$1.43 and \$1.47 in the June and September quarters of 2008:

<http://www.oesr.qld.gov.au/publications/tables/economic-performance/petrol-avg-retail-price-type-bris/index.shtml>.

¹¹ Many books and documentaries have now been published on this topic: for a selection *see*

<http://www.grinningplanet.com/environmental-books/peak-oil-books.htm>, and

<http://www.grinningplanet.com/6001/environmental-movies.htm#peakoil>.

¹² Bruce Robinson, Convenor of the Australian Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas, has for some time been advocating the adoption of plans for national petrol rationing in what he sees as the likely event of a 'petrol drought': <http://www.aspo-australia.org.au/general/peak-oil-the-elephant-at-the-summit.html>.

¹³ Holt-Gimenez, E., and Patel, R., 2008, **Food Rebellions! Crisis and the Hunger for Justice**, Pambazuka Press, Cape Town, 11.

¹⁴ ACF (2008, pvii)

¹⁵ This estimate comes from the Population Division of the Economic and Social Affairs Department of the United Nations: <http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp2008/index.htm>.

¹⁶ <http://www.worldhunger.org/articles/Learn/world%20hunger%20facts%202002.htm>;

<http://www.who.int/dietphysicalactivity/publications/facts/obesity/en/>

¹⁷ Miguel Altieri, Professor of Agroecology at the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management, University of California, Berkeley, and the holder of numerous international directorships and visiting professorships, is one of the world's leading experts on the environmental health risks of the widespread introduction of genetically-modified crops. He has also researched and published extensively on the effective development of agro-ecological farming systems for small peasant and indigenous farmers, in particular ecologically-based pest management. His CV, which contains a list of his books and publications since 1995, is available here: http://www.redcapa.org.br/curriculo_prof/miguel_altieri.pdf.

¹⁸ In the US, where 64 million hectares of land has been planted with GM crops, recent reports have revealed that at least 10 species of 'superweed' have evolved to be resistant to Monsanto's Round-Up herbicide: Nestle, M., 2010, **Round-Up Red Alert: US Farmers Grow Superweeds**, The Atlantic, <http://www.theatlantic.com/food/archive/2010/05/roundup-red-alert-us-farms-grow-superweeds/56250/>.

¹⁹ See The **National Preventative Health Strategy 2009** and the accompanying Technical Report **Obesity in Australia: a need for urgent action**, prepared by the *National Preventative Health Task Force*, <http://www.preventativehealth.org.au/internet/preventativehealth/publishing.nsf/Content/national-preventative-health-strategy-1lp>.

²⁰ ACF (2008, p.ix)

²¹ National Preventative Health TaskForce, **Technical Paper 1: Obesity in Australia: a need for urgent action**.

²² See DAFF, 2005, **Submission to the Tax Board**,

http://www.taxboard.gov.au/content/small_business_CGT/submissions/P10_DAFF.pdf.

²³ NSW Department of Planning (2009)

²⁴ As discussed for example in the *Transition Handbook: From Oil Dependency to Local Resilience* (Rob Hopkins, <http://transitionculture.org/shop/the-transition-handbook/>); see also the "Peak Oil Blues" blog of Kathy McMahon, <http://www.peakoilblues.org/blog/>.

²⁵ Adapted from Royal Institute of International Affairs (2009, p.26)

²⁶ **Coffs Harbour Economic Update** Edition 8, March 2010,

http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/Coffs_Economic_Update_Edtn_8_March_2010.pdf.

²⁷ **Coffs Harbour Economic Profile 2007**, CHCC Economic Development Unit, p14,

http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/Coffs_Harbour_Economic_Profile_2007_Lo_ReS.pdf.

²⁸ This figure comes from **Sustainable Growing Systems for the Nambucca Shire**, published by the Nambucca Valley Conservation Association in 2009 (authors Kelly A Tudhops and Alastair Gunn).

OUR LIVING COAST REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE - FINAL INDEPENDENT EVALUATION

Purpose:

This report gives an overview of the key outcomes and recommendations from the final independent evaluation of the Our Living Coast Regional Sustainability Initiative (OLC).

The \$2 million OLC project was approved by the NSW Environmental Trust on 24 December 2009 and project work commenced in January 2010. This report is submitted to inform and for Council to note.

Description of Item:

1. Introduction and published reports

The OLC ran for 3 years from December 2009 to January 2013. The \$2 million initiative was funded by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's Environmental Trust and was led by Coffs Harbour City Council (CHCC) in partnership with Bellingen Shire Council and Nambucca Shire Council. A requirement of the grant funding agreement was that the project be independently evaluated.

A number of key documents have been produced as part of that independent evaluation, including in-depth project information, evaluation outcomes and raw data. A copy of the following reports are attached:

- ***Connecting People, Places and Sustainability: OLC Sustainability Project Evaluation Report***, T Issues Consultancy, January 2013 (Attachment 1)
- ***Connecting People, Places and Sustainability: OLC Sustainability Project Supplementary Report to the Evaluation***, T Issues Consultancy, January 2013 (Attachment 2)
- ***OLC Final Project Report and Appendices***, CHCC, 31 January 2013 (Attachment 3)
- ***OLC Healthy Homes End of Program Participants Survey***, T Issues Consultancy and CHCC, December 2012 (Attachment 4)

2. Initiatives delivered through the program

A diverse range of environmental sustainability initiatives were undertaken as part of the project including activities aimed at improving both the sustainability of the Councils involved in the project and the sustainability of the wider community. Many of the different programs were delivered using strong partnerships across the region. Outputs included:

- ***A Regional Environmental Sustainability Routemap*** developed through a series of workshops.

- **A Regional Sustainability Hub** www.ourlivingcoast.com.au was developed to provide the Coffs Coast community with valuable information on sustainability and to act as a 'one-stop shop' for sustainability issues for the region. The website continues to operate post-funding and includes a regular enewsletter that links to the website and the, currently unfunded, Healthy Homes community sustainability program.
- **Healthy Homes community sustainability program** designed and delivered including workshops, newsletters and community-driven works projects.
- Support for **regional sustainability events** including the North Coast Energy Forum, Bellinger River Festival, the Sustainable Living Festival and Ride to Work Days.
- **A Council Action Learning** project leading to the formation of internal **Sustainability Teams** in Coffs Harbour City Council and Bellinger Shire Council.
- **A series of Transport Projects** including installation of cycling racks, design and publication of cycling maps for the region, purchase of Council bicycle fleets for staff use to replace car trips during office hours and the launch of the MNC Car Pooling website and associated signage for the region.
- **A series of On-ground environmental works** completed, comprising a number of innovative projects resulting in revegetation works, riverbank erosion controls, coastal headlands protection, rubbish removal, more sustainable access for the community to scenic sites, stormwater quality improvements and the completion and launch of both the Solitary Islands Coastal Walk and the Nyambaga Walking Trail.

3. Independent Evaluation Results

The OLC project was independently evaluated by T Issues Consultancy. The project evaluation report available at www.ourlivingcoast.com.au lists highlights and key findings of the OLC Project. These include:

- The Project has prompted significant levels of behaviour change among the communities of the three Local Government Areas (LGAs) (through the Healthy Homes project) and to a lesser extent among Council staff (through the Council Action Learning Project).
- There was significant evidence that the OLC project has resulted in increased integration between the participating Councils.
- The On-Ground Projects represent a significant achievement for OLC and the works projects were exemplary. There were significant biodiversity gains and huge increases in volunteering to support environmental works.
- The community was significantly engaged by OLC. Engagement with its community is a legacy of substance for OLC.
- The Sustainability Hub is a major success story for the OLC Project (website and enewsletter)
- The OLC Sustainable Living Festival 2012 was very positively evaluated and prompted behaviour and attitudinal change. It also has a significant impact on social sustainability.

4. Health Homes Project Evaluation

The Healthy Homes Community Sustainability Project received an excellent independent evaluation. The evaluator commented that *...these workshops have proved to be an outstanding example of local government co-operation and community building.*

The Healthy Homes project ran 67 workshops across the region with over 1000 people attending. 83% of participants stated that they had made changes as a result of attending a workshop. Most of these were multiple changes. 43% could identify changes they were making as a result of the newsletter alone.

The project supported the community groups who participated in the workshops by allocating small amounts of seed funding to each group to undertake identified community works. Community works undertaken through the Healthy Homes project included:

- Citrus groves at Sixteenth Avenue, Sawtell and Sawtell Public School
- Bowraville community garden and chookhouse
- Eungai Creek community hall insulation
- Macksville streetscaping works
- Mylestom preschool herb garden and energy efficient fridge for community hall
- Nambucca Heads Youth Centre community vegetable garden
- Scotts Head nesting boxes and worm farms
- Taylors Arms community website
- Urunga community hall solar hot water system

These activities, whilst small, are best practice examples of how Councils, in a tight budgetary environment, can engage communities in delivering outcomes for everyone, by enabling and supporting them. This model, if applied across the community, could bring significant sustainability outcomes, both economically, socially and environmentally.

5. Independent Project Evaluation Recommendations

The independent evaluation report sets out a number of recommendations (p100) that will help frame Council's future approach to sustainability across the LGA. The recommendations have been reviewed and those that are considered to be the highest priority at this time are included below. The full set of recommendations is available in the evaluation report at www.ourlivingcoast.com.au

- a) Ensure that the gains and momentum of OLC project are not lost. Specifically this should involve:
 - Continued provision of the website and newsletter.
 - The continuation of annual support for a community sustainability program.
 - Continued support for the CHCC 'S' Team.

- b) The three Councils liaise with NSW Health and NSW Roads and Maritime to develop a more comprehensive project to reduce car use and enhance recreational and work related cycling. This project should:
 - Ensure that car pooling continues to be supported.
 - Assist Coffs Harbour City Council to extend the use of Council's bikes.
 - Strongly promote walking – especially the use of Solitary Islands track and other local walking tracks.
 - Continue to hold local, annual Ride to Work days at each Council
 - Extend Ride to Work Days as community events annually.

- c) The three Councils extend their activity to support sustainability by engagement with Sustainability Advantage (OEH) re: establishing a viable and effective small business project on the Coffs Coast.

Sustainability Assessment:

- **Environment**

The various projects facilitated through the OEH grant funding provided significant positive contributions to the enhancement and protection of the environment. Outcomes from the project include the implementation of documented positive behavior change toward environmental sustainability across the community and valuable on ground environmental enhancement works.

- **Social**

The community projects delivered through the Healthy Homes program demonstrated a range of social sustainability outcomes, as well as environmental outcomes including increased community well-being, building community capital and community equity/access issues.

- **Civic Leadership**

The initiatives implemented as part of the OLC project demonstrated significant Council leadership. The model implemented through Healthy Homes Community Sustainability Program, of seed-funding community works projects, and working with community's to build their capacity to deliver community outcomes of value to all, showed both innovation and leadership by Council. The initiatives of the OLC project addressed a range of objectives in the 2030 Plan and Vision, whose aim is to move the LGA towards a more sustainable future.

- **Economic**

Broader Economic Implications

There are no broader economic implications applicable to the noting of this report.

Delivery Program/Operational Plan Implications

There are no economic implications applicable to the noting of this report.

Consultation:

The evaluation report was researched, developed and written by the independent project evaluator and the Final Report was developed by the Coordinator of the OLC project. Both reports were written for the grant funding body, the Environmental Trust as part of the grant funding agreement. The reports have been placed on the OLC community website www.ourlivingcoast.com.au.

Related Policy and / or Precedents:

No related policy and/or precedents.

Statutory Requirements:

No relevant statutory requirements.

Issues:

Several recommendations detailed within the consultant's report would require the provision of funding to facilitate continuation of the projects undertaken. High priority projects of particular note and value that would benefit from further funding include:

- The Healthy Homes Community Sustainability project incorporating the facilitation of Healthy Homes workshops; and,
- Supporting sustainability by working in partnership with OEH to establish a viable and effective small business project on the Coffs Coast.
- A more comprehensive project to reduce car use and enhance recreational and work related cycling.

Funding to undertake these projects has been expended and accordingly the projects have ceased and will not be recommenced without obtaining additional funding. It should be noted that the above projects will be reviewed and considered in conjunction with the development of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Recommendation:

- 1. That Council note the independent evaluation report and the final project report for the Our Living Coast Regional Sustainability Initiative and acknowledge the significant impact that this project has had on regional sustainability across the Mid North Coast.**



Connecting People, Places and Sustainability
Our Living Coast Sustainability Project Evaluation Report



Produced for Our Living Coast by

 **T Issues Consultancy**
Grahame Collier



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Note that all data upon which this report is based is available in the OLC Project Evaluation Supplementary Report.

Acknowledgements

Our Living Coast team - Jim Downey, Elle Morrell

Members of staff from the three Councils who did all the work and especially those who provided input into the evaluation process:

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National Parks and Wildlife Service: Glenn Storrie, Dave Nalder

Community: Joy Vansom, and many others who attended the focus group and responded to the survey and made the project live.

The T Issues Team that worked on this project: Lee Meredith, Jenny Day and Merri Collier

Routemap development and evaluation: Jane Elix and Judy Lambert

Web statistics Go4 Multimedia: Mandy Traynor and Steve Coates

1. Highlights of Findings – Final Evaluation Report

Fabulous program - a wonderfully safe and supportive way to learn and apply practical changes to help our environment. It's made us much more conscious consumers - we consume and use less and choose carefully anything we buy¹. Our Living Coast participant.

We have to have frameworks that nourish life...a sustainable and just lifestyle.² Gilbert Rochecouste

The key results of the Our Living Coast project have been distilled into this summary, organised under headings related to the desired project outcomes.

Behaviour Change

From a slow beginning this Project has prompted significant levels of behaviour change among the communities of the three LGAs and to a lesser extent among Council staff. Highlights are:

- 42.7% of those responding to the Our Living Coast Survey could identify changes they were making as a result of reading the Newsletter alone.
- 83% of people responding to the Our Living Coast survey had made changes as a result of attending the workshops. Most of these were multiple changes.
- In workshops delivered at Festivals, significant intention to change was reported. For example, at the 2012 Sustainable Living Festival in all workshops apart from one, in excess of 75% of participants indicated an intention to change their behaviour as a result of the Workshop. At three Workshops data indicated that more than 90% will change behaviour. The range of changes reported was substantial and far reaching. In the Coastal Ambassadors Program, 69% of those who participated indicated that they intended to change behaviour as a result of the program. Three months after the program over 90% of these people indicated that they had made the changes that they had intended to make.
- All those involved in the Healthy Homes series of workshop indicated that they had made changes as a result of the workshop. Incredible changes were made:

Maureen changed the type of fish she bought, planted more trees, became more aware of turning power off at wall and met new friends.

The Supermarket Tour was fantastic. I learnt a lot and changed what I do at home. I have told all my friends what not to buy. I have even stopped buying some products I

¹ All quotes in this report are indicated in *italics*.

² Gilbert Rochecouste – the Placemaker. Rochecouste's company is called The Village Well, and probably best known for revitalising Melbourne's Flinders Lane and Degraeves Street, as well as the Queen Victoria Markets. The common theme is a determination to retain things that make each place distinctive. He was key presenter towards the conclusion of Our Living Coast and at the Celebration Event.

love – a brand of tea and a brand of mayonnaise. It was just a great way to learn and it really made me think and do things differently.

- Actual change indicated from an end of series survey of Healthy Homes participants indicated that within 71 households, and as a result of Healthy Homes:
 - Ten had purchased photovoltaic cells.
 - Thirteen had purchased solar hot water.
 - Nine had purchased water tanks [which were already quite extensively used according to the lifestyle data].
 - Over 60% had planted indigenous plants
 - *Well over 50% had reduced the use of standby power, by turning appliances off at the wall.*
 - Almost 30% had started composting/worm farming.
 - Over 60% were using non-toxic cleaning products, at least some of the time. Vinegar and bi-carb were being used by most respondents.

This is not to say that these were the only changes made – they provide a snapshot of a sample at a point in time. The real news is much better than this; there is so much behaviour change intent and so many changes that have occurred now, where the information has not been captured.

- Council staff have adopted changed behaviour: car pooling, bicycle use, engagement in Sustainability Teams and delivery of a substantial number of sustainability projects.

Project Governance Increased Integration Between Councils

There was significant evidence that the Our Living Coast project has resulted in increased integration between Councils. As one key informant indicated: *There is real evidence that a project 'external to council' has impacted on each Council.*

Feedback from all Council key informants indicated that the governance of the project through the Steering Committee was effective and all Councils contributed effectively in this process.

The Steering Committee worked. Involvement of personnel at Director level was appropriate, because they had the delegated authority to make decisions.

Collaboration was effective and this was a great model.

It was noted in particular that there was: *growth in connection, most especially in Councils where there was strong GM support for the project and sustainability.*

It is realistic to acknowledge that the: *Totally different culture within each Council made collaboration challenging.* The differences were overcome by goodwill, effective process and hard work.

Council Support for Sustainability

There is substantial evidence that: *each Council has moved forward in sustainability, but there has been some 'backsliding' too.*

Unfortunately though, as one key informant noted: *Local Government will always need grants for carrying sustainability forward.* In saying this, there is substantial evidence that: *a project external to Council [in fact three Councils] can have a significant impact on, in-Council and cross- Council activity.*

In Coffs Harbour City Council and Bellingen Shire Council the establishment of the cross-Council Sustainability Teams [the 'S' Team in Coffs and BATS in Bellingen] have lead to substantial gains and extended the focus on sustainability remarkably. The situation in Nambucca is more fluid, there is no Sustainability Team and: *Losing the Sustainability Officer in Nambucca does not sound very sustainable* [Community respondent].

In terms of Our Living Coast, all Councils have provided substantial officer involvement and support to get the job done in a highly professional and cooperative manner. The work in the On Ground projects is a testimony to this.

On Ground Works

The On Ground Projects represent a significant achievement for Our Living Coast. They were slow to start, through no fault of the Our Living Coast team, but once they did, the works projects were exemplary. Almost all projects were completed as planned. There were significant biodiversity gains and huge increases in volunteering to support environmental works. Some highlights among many were:

Solitary Island Coastal Walk

This has been a major and significant project between Coffs Harbour City Council and National Parks and Wildlife Service staff. Comments from key informants indicate:

- *This concept has been around for 23 years – a vision to a reality.*
- *Great collaborative project, Coffs City Council, NPWS, Aboriginal community, local residents.*
- *A five-fold multiplier effect to OLC funding input.*

Flying Foxes Projects

Across the three Councils the Flying Foxes projects were highly successful. For example at Bowraville community members said:

- *This has been so good for our community.*
- *The planting, to community ownership and the bats – what a combination.*

Bellingen Riverbank Erosion Rehabilitation project

Through Our Living Coast, this Bellingen icon has been restored. Erosion work has been undertaken and weed removal and replanting has occurred. Volunteer bush regeneration is a feature of this work and Plan of Management has been developed for the future.

The Nyambaga Walking Trail has been upgraded. It encompasses the intrinsic bio-cultural value of the area from the fauna and flora found there. Our Living Coast carried out works to remove inappropriate tracks across the dune system and provide track upgrades in more appropriate locations. Also weed removal, dune plantings, fencing, rubbish removal and a community education program for caravan park residents adjacent to the dunes, were a part of this project.

Community/Householder Engagement

The community was significantly engaged by Our Living Coast. Engagement with its community is a legacy of substance for Our Living Coast:

- Over 67 community workshops were held by Our Living Coast
- Over 1,000 people across the three LGAs participated in these workshops
- Over 90 people participated in the Celebration event
- Twenty one people attended the focus group to collect evaluative data
- One hundred and eighty four people completed the on-line survey
- An extensive range of other contact was forged through the more than 10 festivals and major events that were supported by OLC. This extended the range of contacts to well over 15,000 people.
- Significant numbers of the community have worked as volunteers within Our Living Coast On Ground projects and Community Project Grants
- The community was also engaged through the media, the website, through interpretive signage and through one-on-one conversations with people engaged through Our Living Coast.

Some key quotes are included below to give a taste of some of the findings.

Workshops [Participants]

- *Very interesting and informative.*
- *So helpful to me and very sociable- thank you!*
- *Focused, well run, interesting activities, allowed participants to feel comfortable, to contribute and be advised.*
- *I was very satisfied with and what I learnt about chooks.*
- *Really helped with my specific household needs and circumstances.*
- *Just great - you learn so much, speaker fantastic. Thanks!*

Supporting community projects [People involved in community projects]

- *At 2 o'clock when the planting was due to start there were only three of us there. I thought 'oh no.' Then people started flooding out of their houses; in the end there were over 30 people planting and chatting and really enjoying it.*
- *Bowraville – friends of Cressy Park, working bees/bushcare. Fantastic. I can't believe it!*

Sustainability Hub

The Sustainability Hub is a major success story for the Our Living Coast Project:

- The Newsletter is well subscribed [688 people] and has prompted behaviour change, information sharing and knowledge growth. As indicated by one subscriber: *The Newsletter works for me; prompted to read it by email popping into my box is great.*
- The Website attracted over 500 visits each month on average and is seen as very useful.
- The Facebook Page, with 311 ‘likes’ is well used but by less users than for the website or the Newsletter.
- The Festivals are a strong feature of the Program with strong attendances and significant community support. The Coffs Coast Sustainable Living Festival 2012 was very positively evaluated and prompted behaviour and attitudinal change. It also has a significant impact on social sustainability. It attracted well over 5,000 people. The Workshops at the festival attracted 101 people and drove significant intention to change. At all workshops apart from one, in excess of 75% of participants indicated an intention to change their behaviour as a result of the Workshop. At three Workshops, data indicated that more than 90% will change behaviour.

Other project activities

The ‘ride to work days’ were great – three in each Council so far, and has become an institution.

Successful Transport projects were delivered:

- Sixty nine Coffs City Council staff have completed the Bicycle Use induction program; eight bikes have been purchased and are now being used instead of cars for work travel.
- Currently Carpool Mid North Coast has 168 registered members. Carpool signs that are brand recognisable have been installed across the communities of the MNC. Southern Cross University’s Coffs Campus has quite a number of signs installed. As well, MNCLHD have had a solid push for the website and similarly have a bulk number of signage installed at their health centres.
- A range of projects and materials are being delivered; Ride to Work Days, walking and cycling maps and brochures etc.

A small business Project in Bellingen has been delivered.

The Findings of the Evaluation

Finding 1. There is widespread evidence of community behaviour change as a result of the Our Living Coast project.

Finding 2. There is evidence that Councils have worked together and are continuing to do so.

Finding 3. There is evidence that the three Councils worked collaboratively in delivering the Our Living Coast project and that it was guided by the Routemap and the baseline research that was undertaken.

Finding 4. There is agreement on sustainability objectives and a common understanding among alliance Councils. However, Councils have integrated sustainability within their policies and operations to different degrees.

Finding 5. The reach and effectiveness of the Household/Community Engagement program were staggering.

Finding 6. No matter how good a program, there is always room for improvement.

Finding 7. The Small community projects added significant value to the project and kept local groups working together following their attendance at the workshops. This sets a real opportunity for the future.

Finding 8. A range of aspects working together engaged people in the project and brought significant results.

Finding 9. People changed their behaviour because of Our Living Coast Householder /Community Engagement part of the project.

Finding 10. The Coffs Coast Sustainable Living Festival is an important event supported by OLC and leads to changes in behaviour, community connection and more community awareness of sustainability.

Finding 11. The Our Living Coast Website and Facebook Page are important parts of the Hub and deliver information effectively and promote shifts in behaviour.

Finding 12. The OLC Newsletter is an effective and high profile part of the Hub that provides information and prompts behaviour change.

Finding 13. The OLC has also supported a range of other successful events across the three Councils, all designed to raise community understanding of local sustainability issues.

Finding 14. Despite commencing later than anticipated the On Ground Projects funded under the Our Living Coast were largely completed with significant impact.

Finding 15. Bush regeneration and biodiversity improvement were important gains through all On Ground projects.

Finding 16. There was evidence of increases in community awareness of biodiversity [and access to education material] as a result of the OLC project.

Finding 17. The Coffs, Bellingen and Nambucca communities are very focused on private motor vehicle use as a means of transport. Changing this is a long term challenge, partly related to population density. All Our Living Coast infrastructure and education outcomes have been achieved.

Finding 18. Car pooling has increased across the community and by Council staff at a reasonable level.

Finding 19. Coffs Harbour City Council has implemented a Bike Program for Council Staff and bikes are being used for work related travel.

Finding 20. There is evidence of only limited engagement and impact of the OLC business project and no evidence of resource reduction as a result of the project.

2. Introduction

Overview

Our Living Coast [OLC] is a project funded by the NSW Environmental Trust under Round 3 of the Urban Sustainability Program, into a consortium of three Councils – Coffs Harbour City Council (CCHS), Bellingen Shire Council (BSC) and Nambucca Shire Council (NSC).

This report is the final evaluation report on the project. It has been drafted by the independent evaluator, Grahame Collier (T Issues Consultancy) based on a substantial amount of data obtained from participants, key stakeholders and managers associated with the project. This report is the third deliverable in the evaluation process and should be viewed in the light of the other two deliverables that preceded it.

Deliverable 1. Our Living Coast Evaluation Framework (November 2010, updated following Report 1 in April 2011). This Framework was built from the Business Plan for the project and established the outcomes to be evaluated (see Section 3), the evaluation questions to be answered and the broad data collection tools to be used to collect the data. It should be noted that while the data collection tools have been extended and occasionally modified through the life of the project, the outcomes have remained the same and form the key focus and structure for this report.

Deliverable 2. Our Living Coast Progress Evaluation Report (April 2011). A detailed report of progress was produced part way through the project. This evaluation was largely formative in nature. It tracked progress up to that time and made thirteen substantial recommendations for change based on the evidence available. This progress evaluation was important to the development of the project in that it pointed to some significant deficiencies and outstanding issues. How the Project responded to the recommendations in the progress report is detailed in Section 4 of this report. Note that data from this report is referred to in the Final Report, below, but it is not replicated.

Deliverable 3. Our Living Coast Final Evaluation Report (December 2012) – this report. The NSW Environmental Trust provided approval for the extension of the time frame for the project Final Report to January 2013. It was originally due to be completed by August 2012. The time frame was extended so that the Final Report on the project is due on the 31st of January 2013. To fit in with this overall schedule, the timing for the development of this evaluation report was adjusted to December 2012. Hence this report captures an evaluation of the entire project, which was essentially completed in late November 2012. Note that data continued to flow in late in December 2012.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is to provide evidence that identified project outcomes have been met. It will also indicate if outcomes have not been met and provide relevant evidence related to this finding. Because it is such a comprehensive project, this report does not contain detailed descriptions of activity within the Our Living Coast (OLC) project. But in saying this, it is clear that in order to provide evaluative data, there is a need for some description of the activity that is being evaluated. More detailed activity information is contained within the OLC Project Final Report.

The purpose of this report is to provide independent evidence to the NSW Environmental Trust, to the three host Councils and to key local government, state government, community and business stakeholders about the outcomes of the project. Evidence that is rigorous and telling; evidence based on independent review against key evaluation questions for each intended outcome.

Structure of this Report

This report is structured as four key related documents. If that seems excessive and too much reading, it is built that way because there is significant data which must be presented to underpin the findings, but not all of it will be read by many stakeholders. Hence separate but related documents are provided.

1. OLC Project Evaluation Highlights

These highlights form the key findings of the report. They are the major 'take out' messages about the success or failure of the project to meet its intended outcomes. This section is written as a stand-alone document, but included in the front section of the OLC Project Evaluation Report. It could be produced for stand-alone distribution. Note that this document is not an Executive Summary of the Report per se, but stands instead of one.

2. OLC Project Evaluation Report

This document is the report proper. It summarises key data against intended outcomes and highlights evidence of findings and results accordingly. The reader is currently reading this document.

3. OLC Project Evaluation Supplementary Report

This large document contains much of the data upon which the Evaluation Report is based. Some of this is raw data and findings are lifted from it. Other content within the Supplementary Report contains analysed data and specific findings which have been brought forward into the Final Report.

4. OLC Survey Report

In addition to the documents above, an on-line survey was conducted at the end of the project. This targeted people who had engaged with the project, particularly through its education and Hub program. Results from the survey are drafted as a separate report and form an important data source for the Final Evaluation Report [2 above]. It was decided to keep this as a separate document, because the findings are important for two reasons. Given that there was a time lag for respondents between the project activity that they were engaged with and the survey, this allowed for some measurement of whether there had been decay over time, in terms of changes motivated by project attendance. The Survey

Report also contains useful stand alone data which might have been buried had it only been placed in the other documents/reports.

About the Activity of the Our Living Coast Project

In Section 3 below, the Outcomes and Evaluation Questions for the Project are identified. These were drawn from the Project Plan, and were developed at the commencement of the project, see Deliverable 1. above. Since that time a number of other activities have been added to the project with the approval of the funding body. Where possible, these have been evaluated as a part of the process and the results are included in this report. The additional project activities are:

- The OLC Newsletter [see Findings in the Sustainability Hub, Section 5 below]
- The OLC Facebook Page [see Findings in the Sustainability Hub, Section 5 below]
- Support for a number of events – The Bellinger River Festival, the Sustainable Living Festival, the Renewable Energy Festival [See findings below in the Sustainability Hub, Section 5 below]
- Ride to Work Days [See commentary in Transport, Section 5 below]
- The Car Pooling Website [See findings in Transport, Section 5 below]
- Generation of Lifestyle data as part of the Healthy Homes Program [See findings in Householder/Community Engagement, Section 5 below]
- Supporting local Community projects [See findings in Householder/Community Engagement, Section 5 below].

In addition, undertaking the OLC Survey was not a part of the original Project Plan or the Evaluation Framework.

It should be noted that all these activities have brought additional depth and focus for the project. They also have brought a deal of additional work for the OLC staff and for the Evaluator. In the case of the Evaluator this work is beyond contract and hence has been delivered voluntarily to the project.

About the Data

In the production of this report, a rigorous evaluation process was used where data was collected from a number of sources. This data has been analysed and integrated to form the evidence upon which this report is founded. Data sources for the evaluation of Our Living Coast include:

- Evaluation forms completed by participants at all events and workshops – a substantial amount of data
- Lifestyle and behaviour data specifically collected through the Healthy Homes component of the program
- Pictorial records of On Ground and other activities showing locations and progress
- Face-to-face interviews with key informants including members of the Steering Committee
- Face-to-face interviews with On Ground works project managers and analysis of written records
- Face-to-face interviews with Council staff who were delivering in-house Council projects
- Focus group discussion with community members
- Individual discussion with community members at the celebration event.
- Journal records collected from key project personnel

- Before and after photo evidence [note only some examples of this are included in this report because of the size of the files]
- Tours of On Ground works locations (visual evidence)
- An on-line survey of people involved in OLC programs
- Web and other data analysis
- Desk research of project records
- Media data review.

It should be noted that data included in the Final Report does not duplicate the material included in the Progress Report. This is referred to as appropriate.

In Summary then....

This evaluation has been a rigorous process, fitting the size and diverse nature of the OLC project. The extent of triangulation of data and the professional way in which the project has been delivered, especially in the last eighteen months, has been an example of highly effective practice.

This report indicates that the project has reached the vast majority of its intended outcomes. It indicates that the evaluation process has been an integral and influential part of the project – not merely a project deliverable. It indicates that ongoing evaluation can have an important role in effective project delivery.

3. Setting the Context

The following tables are drawn from the Our Living Coast Sustainability Project Evaluation Framework and are included in this report to ensure an understanding of the structure of the Findings section [see Section 5 below]. Evaluating against intended outcomes is a vital part of the process of best practice evaluation.

Level/Program	Outcomes	Evaluation Questions
Ultimate – Overall Project Outcomes	<p>Widespread adoption of sustainable practices throughout the community indicating that sustainable practices are well understood and resulting in reductions in household energy and water use reduced waste, and local food production.</p> <p>Evidence that the three Councils are working together effectively on sustainability issues at a local and regional basis</p>	<p>U1. What evidence is there of community behaviour change as a result of the Project?</p> <p>U2. Is there evidence that Councils are working together effectively on sustainability?</p>
Governance		
Ultimate	A shared vision among the three Alliance Councils on how to achieve sustainability in the regions and a Sustainability Routemap that provides the direction.	R1. Is there evidence of a shared vision, owned by alliance Councils?
Intermediate	<p>Agreement among the Alliance Councils on sustainability objectives for the region.</p> <p>The three Alliance Councils have a common understanding about sustainability issues across the region.</p>	R2. To what extent is there agreement on sustainability objectives and a common understanding among the alliance Councils?
Immediate	Baseline information on sustainability is gathered on previous work undertaken individually by all three Alliance Councils.	R3. Has baseline research been undertaken and results shared?
Sustainability Hub		
Ultimate	Users of the Hub start to change their practices; for example change of light globes, alternate shopping bags etc.	H1. What evidence is there of community behaviour change as a result of the Project?

Level/Program	Outcomes	Evaluation Questions
Intermediate	<p>Community awareness of priority sustainability issues and actions is increased.</p> <p>Increasing use of the Hub is evidenced by measuring and providing information about hits and visitors.</p>	<p>H2. What evidence exists of increased community awareness of the existence of the Hub?</p> <p>H3. What data exists about use of the Hub?</p>
Immediate	<p>A Sustainability Hub is completed and is available live on-line; providing information to the community on how to achieve sustainability.</p> <p>Baseline assessment of information occurs that identifies what could be provided to the community on sustainability.</p>	<p>H4. Is the Hub available and working live on-line?</p> <p>H5. Has information been sourced and placed on the Hub?</p>
Action Learning Projects		
Ultimate	<p>An agreed process into the future that sees the three Councils work together on ongoing operations.</p> <p>Reduction in Council energy, fuel and water use as a result of specific <i>Our Living Coast</i> initiatives.</p>	<p>AL1. Have the Alliance Councils identified a process for future collaboration concerning operations and other sustainable processes?</p> <p>AL2. Is there evidence of reduction in resource use as a result of specific projects undertaken under <i>Our Living Coast</i>?</p>
Intermediate	<p>Positive changes in internal Council relationships and processes which assist in moving towards more sustainable operations.</p>	<p>AL3. What evidence is there of changes to internal processes and relationships as a result of <i>Our Living Coast</i>?</p>
Immediate	<p>Improved knowledge and understanding of best practice operations and technologies available to Councils for their own operations.</p>	<p>AL4. Is there evidence of improved knowledge among Council Operations staff as a result of <i>Our Living Coast</i>?</p>
On Ground Works		
Ultimate	<p>Completion of erosion control, revegetation</p>	<p>OGW1. Has all planned erosion control, re-vegetation and weed removal works been</p>

Level/Program	Outcomes	Evaluation Questions
	and weed removal works in coastal areas. Increased urban biodiversity through activities under the Flying Fox project.	completed? OGW 2. Is there evidence of increased biodiversity as a result of the project?
Intermediate	Increased community awareness of the region’s coastal biodiversity values through improved access. Increased community awareness of biodiversity through improved access via the Coastal Walk.	OGW 3. What evidence exists of increased community awareness of the region’s coastal biodiversity values?
Immediate	Improved community access to information about coastal biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage values.	OGW4. What evidence exists of improved community access to information about coastal biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage values?
Household Engagement Program		
Ultimate	All householders engaged in the Living Smart Program change practices to more sustainable use of water and energy, improved waste management, purchasing, and gardening behaviour.	LS1. To what extent are householders engaged in the program demonstrating improved practices?
Intermediate	Raised understanding of sustainability in households engaged in the Living Smart Program. [note and Healthy Homes] Raised awareness of participants in all general Council workshops about sustainable living.	LS2. What evidence is there of increases in awareness and understanding among Living Smart Program participants? LS3. What evidence is there of increases in awareness and understanding is there among general workshop participants?
Immediate	Community workshops held on cycling on topics which include: bike maintenance, safe riding techniques, road rules, selecting a bike and greenhouse friendly travel modes etc. Identification of community needs and wants regarding access to information about sustainability.	LS4. Have community workshops been held - where and to what extent? LS5. Is there evidence of community needs assessment?

Level/Program	Outcomes	Evaluation Questions
Business Engagement Program		
Ultimate	Businesses in Bellingen engaged in the program make tangible changes in resource use as a result of the program.	B1. What resource reduction evidence exists among Bellingen businesses engaged in the program?
Intermediate	Businesses in Bellingen sign up and become engaged in the program.	B2. How many businesses are signed up and engaged in the program?
Immediate	Signing up to the project is seen as giving businesses a competitive advantage on a town-wide basis.	B3. What evidence exists about the positive features of involvement in the program?
Transport		
Ultimate	Increased use of more environmentally friendly modes of transport. Evidence of increased use of cycling as a mode of transport.	T1. Is there evidence of increased use of environmentally friendly transport options in the community – including cycling?
Intermediate	Increased awareness across the region of cycling as a mode of transport. Increased use of car pooling among Council staff and in the community.	T2. Are people across the three Alliance Councils more aware of cycling as a mode of transport? T3. Is there evidence of increased car pooling by Council staff and/or in the community?
Immediate	Councils [Bellingen and Coffs Harbour] purchase bikes for use by employees for work related trips – Cycling racks also made available [Nambucca and Bellingen]. Cycling and walking route maps available at each Alliance Council.	T4. Is there evidence of purchase of bikes for Coffs Harbour and Bellingen staff, the construction of racks in Nambucca and Bellingen Shires and availability of cycling and walking maps in each alliance Council?

4. Responding to Formative Aspects of Report 1.

Separating this project from many others has been the engagement of an independent partner as the evaluator of the project, throughout its life. This has helped make the final reporting process rigorous and perhaps even more importantly, it shaped the work of the project in substantial ways. These are outlined below.

4a. Responding to the Progress Report

Following the Progress Evaluation Report, April 2011, the Our Living Coast staff responded to its Recommendations [extract below] by adapting the project and their approach to it to ensure that it delivered against the agreed Outcomes.

It is recommended that:

- I. This report is reviewed in detail by all members of the Project Steering Committee and the Working Group and each recommendation is considered with a view to making changes to the project, if desirable.
- II. All parties ensure that agreement is obtained and work commenced on the On-ground projects as soon as possible. Further delay is of real concern. Apart from their obvious environmental benefits, On-ground Works will add to the visibility of the project and have significant impact on engagement strategies. On-ground works offer opportunity for installation of interpretive and information signage, community education about the work that is occurring and marketing through press contact etc, to occur. In the scheme of this the Outcomes sought by Our Living Coast, project, these opportunities cannot be understated.
- III. The Routemap is used in a way that integrates the good work done in this component into the ongoing project. The Routemap needs to be more prominent in work with the community, with business and with Council staff, through Action Learning Projects. It sets the context for Our Living Coast and is wasted if it sits on a shelf. In this regard Our Living Coast might consider communicating its good works to the community within the context of the directions set by the Routemap. If this was to occur, much of the data could be obtained from this Evaluation Report.
- IV. Our Living Coast identifies a way of obtaining information from the community about their connection with the project and the behaviour shifts that are occurring as a result of activity across the whole Living Coast Project. New data via a community survey should be conducted at least twice in the life of the project. In this regard it is important that the website is used more effectively as a data collection mechanism and this should be considered by the Steering Group. This survey would build upon the early research undertaken prior to the commencement of the project. In addition, the proposed Living Smart program provides a real opportunity to identify actual and intended shifts in behaviour, where participants sign up for the whole program.
- V. The Living Smart Program is rolled out extensively during the remainder of 2011 and into 2012. The priority must be to sign up local groups and schools etc to host a four/six workshop program and to undertake the program in its entirety. While one-off workshops are of value and should continue, real benefit will be obtained from locally owned multiple workshop programs where data is collected about environmental behaviour.
- VI. The Sustainability Hub is the subject of a specific marketing campaign, across all three Councils to drive increase traffic. Specific emphasis might be placed on promoting; the chat room, the Q&A capability of the Hub and its usefulness for students
- VII. A review of the material that is included on the Our Living Coast Sustainability Hub is undertaken and more information is uploaded. Enhancing the depth of newsletter content should form a part of this

process. Also ways of linking it to the Office of Environment and Heritage's EFS Learning Hub are investigated.

- VIII. Activity continues to attempt to sign up more businesses in the Bellingen Business project. A close relationship between the Bellingen Shire Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Bellingen Eye and businesses is vital in extending this project. In this regard the promotion of successful results among businesses that are already engaged is essential. Also it would seem that there is some need for a closer integration with the efforts of the office of Environment and Heritage [formerly the DECCW] in this project.
- IX. Action Learning projects, with Operations staff in each Council is moved forward without further delay. Successful training has occurred but it is essential that local projects are confirmed, approved and commence as soon as possible, if all the outcomes that are desirable from this initiative are to be achieved.
- X. A decision is made as soon as possible about whether a Transport Forum is to be held and what its specific objectives are. The car pooling website needs to be progresses as well.
- XI. In general terms, there needs to be a closer connection between the project and the community. The Living Smart Program will assist in this regard, but it will only provide a part of the answer. The Steering Group should consider ways of achieving a heightened level of community engagement and ownership in the project.
- XII. Efforts are made to attract more media interest and activity in promoting sustainable living articles in local press. Radio should be investigated as a possible site for more content
- XIII. The behaviour change culture and the evaluation culture of the project are improved markedly. Insufficient focus, energy and commitment are put towards promoting behaviour change within the community, despite the fact that it is an ultimate outcome of the project. This requires a re-prioritisation and focus. Perhaps the Steering Committee needs to invest in a skilled behaviour change expert to provide input into the project's capacity to drive behaviour shift. Similarly, the project lacks an evaluation culture, where evaluation occurs as a matter of course and the results are reflected upon in some depth. Evaluation is important all the time, not just when the external evaluator requires data for a report.

The following material delivered by OLC Project Staff provides advice delivered to the evaluator early in 2012, about the process for dealing with the Recommendations and the changes made. It demonstrates a highly professional and responsive approach to the formative nature of the Recommendations of the Progress Report.

1. The project team reviewed the report item by item on 5 May 2011. This was then considered again item by item, by the Steering Group on 22 July 2011.
2. After a drawn out process all approvals for on ground works projects have been obtained from the NSW Environmental Trust. Detailed project descriptions are available and have been loaded onto the Our Living Coast website.
All three of the alliance Council projects have commenced all On Ground project.
Attached later in the report are final projects as approved together with copies of approval letters.
3. The Routemap has been presented to CHCC and BSC *S Teams*. It also informed the production of these two Councils 2030 consultation processes with the wider community. The development of a regional S Team will be pursued over the coming six months.

4. We have heavily promoted the whole workshop program and now have active groups together with planned groups in the latter part of the year. These participants will be subject to ‘pre’ and “post” lifestyle surveys.
We will also Survey monkey Our Living Coast Newsletter subscribers.
A decision will need to be made as to whether we survey the wider community.
5. Healthy Homes was rolled out in 2011 and early 2012. It is intended to also do so in the latter half of 2012 up until Oct / Nov 2012. Emphasis will be placed on participants completing the full workshop series.
6. We have established an Our Living Coast Facebook page linked to the OLC website. A major prize of a solar PV installation has been secured and is being offered to residents who ‘like’ the page. This in turn means they receive updates, newsletters, events notification etc from the OLC website.
7. The newsletter content has been dramatically improved. We also engaged Euan Williamson to upgrade website content which has occurred e.g. Places I Love page. The addition of the Facebook page has also assisted to raise the profile of the website.
8. A verbal report will be provided on the business engagement program.
9. Each of the three Councils has an allocation of \$47,000 for CAL projects. The status of each is as follows :

Bellingen Shire Council

- * *S Team* has been established and is meeting monthly: BATS.
- * Landscaping to reduce fuel and chemical use is completed and approximately \$24000 spent.
- * Incorporation of environmental risks into workplace method statements is partially complete and awaiting an invoice from the consultant.
- * Two edible gardens have been installed at Council facilities.
- * Piping and filtering rainwater for staff is being investigated to replace bottled water.

Coffs Harbour City Council

- *S Team* has been established and is meeting monthly.
- Projects commenced are:
 - Power saving software;
 - Log dump recovery
 - Promotional materials
 - Tyre inflator
 - Energy and water audits of Council facilities.

Nambucca Shire Council

Due to extensive past actions, NSC has had difficulty developing projects and accordingly would like to have the funds diverted to Healthy Homes. Actions completed by NSC in the past are listed on the OLC website.

10. OLC staff recently participated in a NSW State Govt. transport forum and we then concluded an OLC event was not warranted. The car pooling website is now completed and is being promoted throughout the community.
11. Actions that have assisted in fostering this connection include :
 - Facebook page and offering of a major prize to be won;
 - Sustainable Living Festival
 - Ride to Work Day
 - Healthy Homes workshops
 - Solitary Islands Coastal walk workshops
 - Media advertising.
12. Our Living Coast has undertaken the following :
 - Engaged a contractor to assist with writing and distributing media releases
 - Taken out radio advertisements
 - Featured in *Focus* magazine.

We attempted to negotiate regular newspaper columns in each of the three main newspapers but we were unsuccessful.

13. Elle Morrell commenced in August 2011 and has considerable behaviour change expertise. Evaluation has become a major focus, and a major prize draw offering of a solar hot water system for completing workshop evaluation forms. Evaluation forms have been rewritten and structured so that behaviour intent data is captured. In addition, we engaged a contractor (Euan Williamson) to assist with program design in this regard.

4b. Responding to Concern Raised by the NSW Environmental Trust

Following the Our Living Coast Evaluation Report 1, April 2011, the Environmental Trust engaged in negotiation with OLC staff about aspects of the progress report – specifically those related to achieving behaviour change outcomes. This seemed to take some time, during which the OLC staff totally revamped the community aspects of the program. Liaison between the trust and OLC was still occurring in May 2012 and reached a stage where the funding for the community aspect of the program appeared under threat. As the evaluator, I was approached by OLC staff to give a view on what was occurring in the project and whether this would achieve the desired outcomes. I did this and took the highly unusual step of writing to the Manager of the Trust on May 16 2012. Surprisingly, I have received no response, but the OLC program has continued to finalisation, with good results. An extract from my letter follows:

OLC personnel have taken these recommendations [and the other eleven] to heart and there are some preliminary observations that I can make to demonstrate that behaviour change is occurring as a result of the project and that evidence of this is available. I hope that this will be useful to the Trust. The context for the observations below is important and needs to be articulated.

- 1. Motivating behaviour change demands two areas of focus; program activities designed to motivate the specific changes and evaluation processes and tools that can measure behavioural intent, and actual behaviour change [where possible].*
- 2. I have worked with OLC staff, especially Pia Dolman after the April 2011 report and more recently with Elle Morrell, to assist in the development of the evaluation processes and tools that will mean we obtain data from the various community information and education approaches that are being delivered through the project. This has necessitated some input into the nature [and content] of the workshops themselves. I note also that OLC has sought independent advice about how to make behaviour change happen and that Elle Morrell has a significant background in this area.*
- 3. Ongoing communication has occurred with Jim Downey about the program and its directions. As recently as May 2nd I met with Jim and Elle to obtain a project update and begin to plan data collection processes for the final report. I was pleased to note that information is being provided by OLC about how each of the recommendations from the Interim Report is being addressed.*
- 4. Ongoing data is being collected and analysed and fed back to OLC staff progressively. In particular, and relating to behaviour change, this has meant that workshop evaluation reports are being fed to me by OLC staff and I am collating and analysing each. If this was not happening, I would be unable to provide information for you.*

Within this context, the following comments might be of value to you.

- OLC has worked hard over the past twelve months to develop activities and workshops that meet community expectations and drive behaviour forward. Initially, as articulated in the Interim Report, this meant fully developing the Living Smart Program. More recently this has been replaced by Healthy Homes, a program that has an even greater emphasis on behaviour. Because Healthy Homes is being rolled out at the moment, any evaluative data on it is not yet available.*
- There is evidence of behaviour shift in the Living Smart workshops delivered last year, see three relevant workshop reports attached as evidence of this. In summary though:

 - The quality of the workshops being presented is high and feedback is positive. There has been a dramatic improvement in evaluation of the workshops since my first report in 2011.*
 - There is evidence of energy reduction, reduced water use, improved resource recovery, reduced waste and changed transport behaviour. Biodiversity related changes have also been identified. As you can see, in the Living Smart workshops the behaviours have actually occurred and been reported upon. For other workshops there are strong behavioural intent outputs.**

4c. Ongoing Engagement with the Evaluator

Project staff have had an ongoing, but ad hoc involvement with the evaluator, through the project. Discussions have been held throughout the project about particular components and how to improve

them. This has not involved any 'capture' of the evaluator; he has been, and remains independent to the project, but it has meant that data reported upon in Report 1, and identified at other occasions, has been used to improve practice and delivery in an ongoing manner.

In Summary then...

The evaluation of Our Living Coast has been an ongoing and professional partnership that has assisted the project to identify and essentially to meet its intended outcomes. Evaluation is not a hands-off exercise and in a project like OLC, the formative components of the evaluation process have been important to the results achieved.

5. Findings

Introduction to the Findings

The findings outlined below are structured under each component of the program and relate to each identified Outcome and Evaluation Question. Evidence of the achievement of each outcome is provided and this is based upon analysis of significant data. Essentially this report provides a summary of the data sufficient to prove that the Outcome has been achieved. The data in detail is provided in the Supplementary Report, where this is necessary

Ultimate Outcomes are discussed first and then Outcomes for each Component is considered. In all 20 Findings are detailed in this report.

Ultimate – Overall Program Outcomes

Ultimate Outcomes	Questions
<p>Widespread adoption of sustainable practices throughout the community indicating that sustainable practices are well understood and resulting in reductions in household energy and water use reduced waste, and local food production.</p> <p>Evidence that the three Councils are working together effectively on sustainability issues at a local and regional basis</p>	<p>U1. What evidence is there of community behaviour change as a result of the Project?</p> <p>U2. Is there evidence that Councils are working together effectively on sustainability?</p>

By their very nature Ultimate Outcomes occur when Immediate and Intermediate Outcomes have been achieved. That is the case for the Our Living Coast Project. Detailed evidence of the achievement of the Ultimate Outcomes is to be found lower in the hierarchy and so evidence in Findings 1 and 2 below is provided in summary form only.

Finding 1. There is widespread evidence of community behaviour change as a result of the Our Living Coast project.

Substantial evidence of behaviour change by people in all three Councils is indicated in the Findings below. In the main this was motivated through the Community/Householder Engagement and Sustainability Hub aspects of the program - the Workshops [especially Healthy Homes], the community sustainability projects, the events and the Newsletter. However there are a range of other activities that have generated behaviour shift. On Ground projects have led to increased use of walking trails and natural areas, a significant and important behaviour. Increased cycling and car pooling are also behavioural outputs from the project.

The project in all Council areas, has also been characterised by involvement of a large number of volunteers – each of whom demonstrates highly positive behaviour.

Behaviour change at the highest level has occurred through this project, particularly in its final twelve months of operation. Project staff and those involved in the three Councils are to be commended for their focus on this outcome. See more detailed information about this Outcome in the Findings section below

Finding 2. There is evidence that Councils have worked together and are continuing to do so.

Data below in Findings 3 and 4 indicates that this ultimate Outcome has been met, although there are some fears that this will continue to be the case once the funding stream diminishes. It is important for the future that the three Councils involved find some way of continuing their efforts – see Recommendations Section.

All three Councils agree that the governance model used in this project was: *appropriate and effective – everyone chipped in and worked hard*. There was agreement among the involved Directors on the Steering Committee, that: *any other collaborative project between our Councils should be organised this way. It is the way we've got to go*.

It was noted in particular that there was: *growth in connection, most especially in Councils where there was strong GM support for the project and sustainability*.

Unfortunately though, as one key informant noted: *Unfortunately though, Local Government will always need grants for carrying sustainability forward*.

Governance Outcomes

Findings in this component relate to the effectiveness with which Councils worked together and raised the profile of sustainability.

Governance		
Ultimate	A shared vision among the three Alliance Councils on how to achieve sustainability in the regions and a Sustainability Routemap that provides the direction.	R1. Is there evidence of a shared vision, owned by alliance Councils?
Intermediate	Agreement among the Alliance Councils on sustainability objectives for the region. The three Alliance Councils have a common understanding about sustainability issues across the region.	R2. To what extent is there agreement on sustainability objectives and a common understanding among the alliance Councils?
Immediate	Baseline information on sustainability is gathered on previous work undertaken individually by all three Alliance Councils.	R3. Has baseline research been undertaken and results shared?

Finding 3. There is evidence that the three Councils worked collaboratively in delivering the Our Living Coast project and that it was guided by the Routemap and the baseline research that was undertaken. In Report 1 [April 2011] the following Finding was reported: ***Finding 3. The Our Living Coast Routemap has been completed but there are some limitations in the ways in which it guides action.*** At that time, these related to its use as a ‘living document’. Respondents felt that the process for developing the Routemap was of value, but its utility was in question.

In late 2012, the same questions were being posed, and there remained varying opinions expressed by key informants about the Routemap. Some said:

The Routemap at least got some alignment in the thinking between three very different Councils.

The intention of the Routemap was good. It will be useful into the future and for future Grant Application processes.

The Routemap was not really opened in our Council – seemed not to be supported/approved by the Trust. Perhaps the process of putting it together was of value but the product did not help much.

The Routemap had a catalytic impact on what took place and on achieving Project Outcomes, rather than a direct impact.

From an evaluation perspective, the Routemap seemed to be an important developmental process at the time but the document itself has had little ongoing utility.

Feedback from all Council key informants indicated that the governance of the project through the Steering Committee was effective and all Councils contributed effectively in this process. Summarising this opinion, the following quotes are indicative:

The Steering Committee worked. Involvement of personnel at Director level was appropriate, because they had the delegated authority to make decisions.

All Councils agreed to Director level involvement who then provided guidance and direction to the project doers.

Collaboration was effective and this was a great model.

One key informant indicated that: *there was only a minor problem when a Director could not attend and was replaced by a designate who did not have the same authority to approve activity.*

Collaboration between Our Living Coast staff and Council designated coordination staff was very effective and replicated the level of collaboration in the Steering Committee. In this regard, however it was noted by the evaluator that:

In hindsight, the project was probably understaffed. The unfunded coordination and project delivery required by Council staff in each LGA was more than was perceived at the outset of the project. The work of Jacqui Ashby, [Nambucca], Lynn Delgado [Coffs Harbour], and Dann Schiebaan [Bellingen] and his predecessors, was vital to the success of the project and all of its results.

Key informants noted that good collaboration occurred for the most part. The following quotes demonstrate this:

Good collaboration between Councils at the project level.

The Alliance has helped at the staff level – people work together well.

This is a cross-Council project that worked because of the people involved. Jim and Elle deserve high praise.

It is important to note however, that delivery of this project, especially the On Ground works component was significantly affected by the Trust's approval processes and delays therein. The Progress Report [April 2011] details this delay up to that time and it is noted that all approvals were not finalised until late in 2011. This delay is inexplicable and put the project at some risk.

Finding 4. There is agreement on sustainability objectives and a common understanding among alliance Councils. However, Councils have integrated sustainability within their policies and operations to different degrees.

As indicated above, the OLC governance process has brought agreement on sustainability objectives and a common understanding among the Councils as far as the delivery of the OLC is concerned. There is not a lot of evidence about how this will extend beyond the life of the Program however.

Three very different Councils worked together on the OLC program. A number of key informants indicated that: *each has a totally different culture*. According to the key informants on the project, the following statements indicate relevant data about this finding for each Council.

A. Nambucca Shire Council

Councils did work in a supportive coordinated fashion through the Steering Committee and at officer level. This helped us at Nambucca, but it has gone now.

Were Council and senior Management supportive? Initially 'yes' at Nambucca, but a large amount of support was lost when infrastructure bids were substantially delayed by the Trust, even though they were included in the Business Plan [Evaluator's Note: which had been previously approved]. It took some time for the project to recover from this shaky beginning.

On Ground projects were supported and work was completed [see below] in a timely and effective manner despite a delayed and confused beginning. Healthy Homes workshops and the community sustainability projects delivered a great deal in Nambucca. Some significant benefits have resulted, for example: In Nambucca there is strong connection with the Aboriginal community through the walking trail project. The strong work by the community in Bowraville has led to the establishment of an energetic community group [community key informant]. The community is the great hope that in Nambucca sustainable living will continue to flourish.

Despite this, one key respondent said that: There is little evidence that Nambucca Shire Council is more focused on sustainability- it seems very development focused and there is little time spent on anything perceived to be 'green'

After the project was completed, the forced redundancy of the staff member responsible for OLC in Nambucca could hardly be conceived of as consistent with a Council supportive of sustainability. There are mixed messages however about this because Council has an environmental levy and has delivered activity through this means. No Sustainability Committee has been set up within Council.

B. Coffs Harbour City Council

Council and senior staff were highly supportive of Our Living Coast and this is demonstrated in a number of ways; support for the establishment and work of the S Team, development and delivery of a number of in-house and region wide projects, for example see Transport projects and the On Ground works projects, below. Work in Coffs has been characterised by the following quotes from key informants:

- *Sustainability is mentioned more in casual and formal discussions and reports.*
- *Major reports are being delivered electronically to staff, the Councillors and the community*

- *All Councillors have IPads and the entire Council Business Paper is delivered electronically.*
- *The recent Local Government Area wide Local Environmental Plan exhibition - instead of multiple copies of hard copy reports being provided to the public, only CD/DVD discs were provided.*
- *More efficient plant, equipment and vehicles are being introduced into the Council fleet*
- *Matters relating to sustainability are acted upon more frequently and quickly.[Quote from key informant but supported by a number]*

In addition, the following points were raised about actions taken:

- Linkage between indoors and outdoors staff working together
- Strong focus on community engagement [See Sustainability Hub below and the Sustainable Living Festival
- Significant growth in the integration of sustainability into all parts of Council
- Some major in-house projects were supported by OLC. In the box below is a summary of one of these.

The Log Dump Timber Mill Project

Background: In the financial year 2010/2011 Coffs Harbour City Council (CHCC) expended some \$124,270 purchasing timber. With an increase in fees at the Resource Recovery Facility, the green-waste produced from operational jobs involving clearing of vegetation was kept at “the Log Dump” - a location on airport grounds, and was chipped every six months. Once a large amount of material had been stockpiled the material was chipped/mulched by a third party at a cost of \$22/cubic metre. The mulch was being on-sold to internal projects at \$5 to \$10 cubic metre. There was a Net loss in this process, however it was cheaper than disposal at the RRF.

The S Team Proposal: Timber chipped includes full logs that have a higher value. Also the carbon expended to mulch logs is a lot higher. The S Team looked at an alternative of milling the logs using a contractor with a mobile mill such as a Lucas Mill. Hardwood recovered would be used for council purposes such as bollards and construction timbers. Indications are that there is demand for hardwood and timber materials on numerous upcoming CHCC projects e.g. Narranga Gardens Playground, Coffs Creek Walk, Woolgoolga Heritage Walk etc. Depending on the size and volume of the timber available from the Log Dump, the material could be used for a variety of purposes such as bollards, seats, stepping stones, plaques or artwork.

City Services have also identified that the hardwood could readily be used in their projects. The exotic timbers such as camphor laurel and silky oak and hardwood not suitable for CHCC use has been donated to local high schools. The benefit is the re-use of materials and as a potential alternate to materials that would need to be purchased. The S Team allocated money from the sustainability fund, to mill the initial hardwood stockpile. The sale of the milled timber could thereafter be a fund established from retained earnings (set aside in the revolving fund). Two mill runs have been held and the following has been milled:

1. About \$29,200 worth of timber for Council projects
2. About \$21,000 worth of timber donated to five Local High Schools
3. Thus total value of timber mill exceeds \$50,000 value
4. Cost of the two mill runs has been about \$16,000

The S Team is endeavouring to establish a revolving fund, from money generated from mill runs, to be used for on-going sustainability projects.

It is clear that: *CHCC has embraced Sustainability and is “walking its talk”.*

C. Bellingen Shire Council

Considered generally, *the Bellingen community is seen as more oriented towards sustainability than many others.* Sustainability is a feature throughout Council’s 2030 Plan and is strongly supported by the Council and senior management. Through the OLC project, Council has established an S Team which has carried forward substantial in-house activity.

Council and senior management have been a very strong contributor to Our Living Coast and: *we have gained substantially from it. It is the way we have to go.*

There are a number of indicators of increased support for sustainability from Bellingen Shire. These include:

- Upgrading of Council’s Sustainability Officer from a part time to a full time position.
- Significant engagement of community volunteers which have increased across the work of the Council.
- Significant On Ground works carried out effectively and in a timely manner.
- Strong engagement of Council outdoors staff.
- Renewable energy activity in Council premises.
- Communication across Council. Silos broken down.
- The establishment of the BATS team [Bellingen Action Team for Sustainability]. BATS comprises staff members from all sections of Council and has become a cohesive team delivering a range of projects in its first year. For example see the table below.

Environmental Management System (EMS)	Council’s Works Department has developed an Integrated Management Systems that incorporates WH&S, quality and environmental management (EMS) components. This system can be applied to all projects across the entire organisation to mitigate the environmental impacts of various projects. The system is currently being trialed at Council’s \$2million upgrade of Rocky Creek and is also being certified by an external auditor.
Landscaping to avoid fuel and pesticide use	Several landscaping projects were completed throughout the urban townships of the Shire. These projects targeted areas that required brush cutting rather than mowing. Areas were sprayed; weed mat put down and planted out. This stopped the requirement for brush cutting, therefore reducing fuel use/greenhouse gas emissions and people hours/work pressure.
Community garden	A community food garden was established in a garden bed in front of the Bellingen Council Chambers. This was promoted to the local community and is used frequently by Council staff and community members. The garden is maintained by BATS.
Shopping bags for staff	Boomerang Bags – reusable cloth shopping bags have been installed at each main doorway and the kitchen in the Council admin building. These bags are frequently used

	by Council staff.
Water filters	Water units and plastic water bottles have been removed from the Council admin building and have been replaced by a filter tap in the main sink of the kitchen. This will reduce Council's plastic use, greenhouse gas emissions and cost of buying bottled water by \$3,000/year.
Film	A film promoting BATS and its activities was produced by Council staff. This will be shown to all Council staff at an event in late 2012.
Switch to recycled toilet paper	All toilet paper supplies to the Council admin building, depots and other Council managed building, such as public toilets now only stock 100% recycled and Australian owned toilet paper.

In general then there is substantial evidence that: *a project external to Council [in fact three Councils] can have a significant impact on in- Council and cross- Council activity.*

Householder/Community Engagement Program

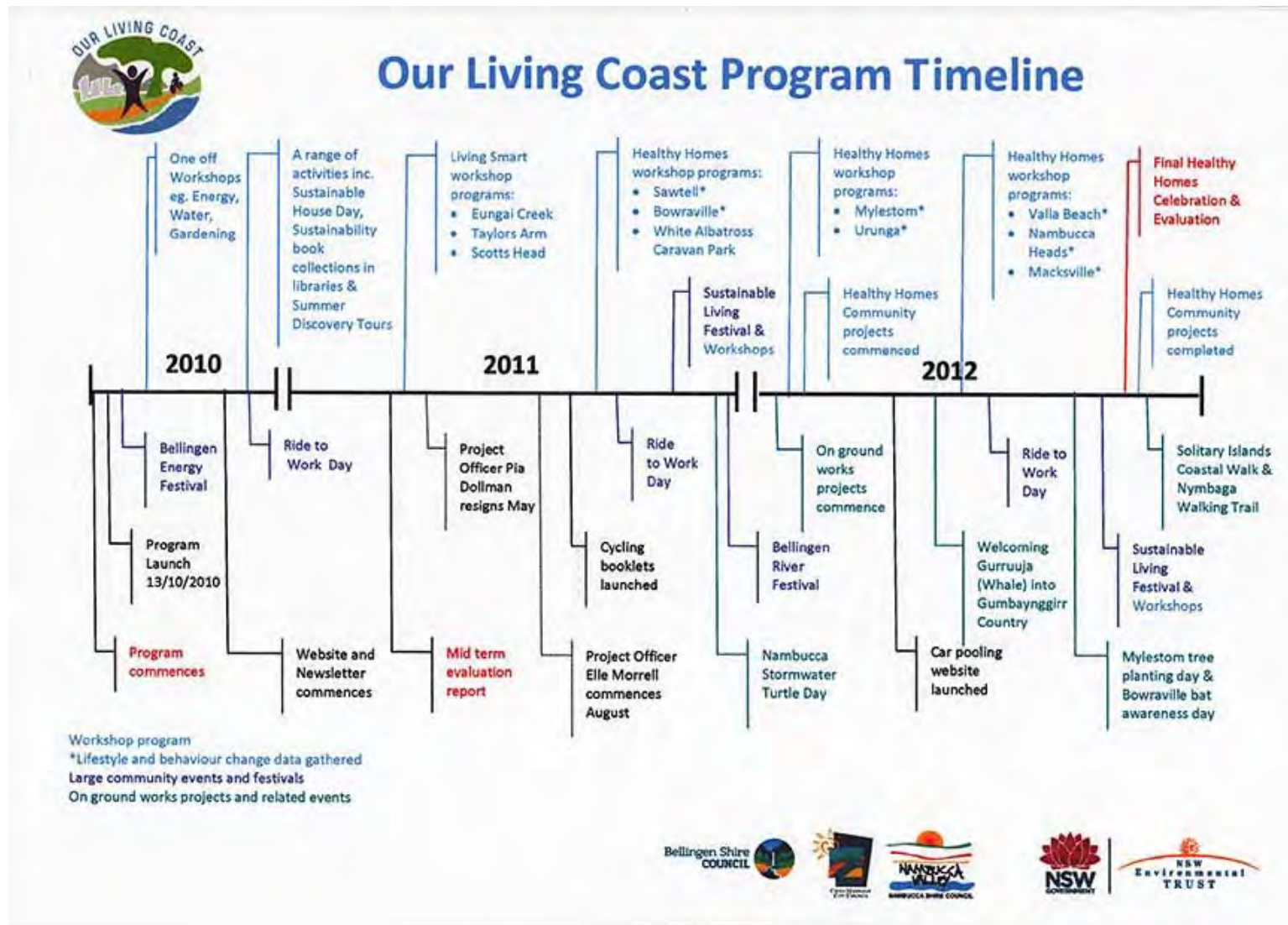
This Section of the Findings relates to the education/engagement component of Our Living Coast. This was a substantial amount of work and all aspects have been fully evaluated, so it is a long section of the report.

At the outset of the Project, the following Outcomes were developed, in line with the Business Plan.

Household Engagement Program		
Ultimate	All householders engaged in the Living Smart Program change practices to more sustainable use of water and energy, and improved waste management, purchasing and gardening behaviour.	LS1. To what extent are householders engaged in the program demonstrating improved practices?
Intermediate	<p>Raised understanding of sustainability in households engaged in the Living Smart Program.</p> <p>Raised awareness of participants in all general Council workshops about sustainable living.</p>	<p>LS2. What evidence is there of increases in awareness and understanding among Living Smart Program participants?</p> <p>LS3. What evidence is there of increases in awareness and understanding among general workshop participants?</p>
Immediate	<p>Community workshops held on cycling, on topics which include: bike maintenance, safe riding techniques, road rules, selecting a bike, greenhouse friendly travel modes etc</p> <p>Identification of community needs and wants regarding access to information about sustainability.</p>	<p>LS4. Have community workshops been held - where and to what extent?</p> <p>LS5. Is there evidence of community needs assessment?</p>

Note: In late 2011, Living Smart changed its name to Healthy Homes due to a trademark clash with a similar workshop program in Perth.

There has been such a range of workshops and events offered in the course of Our Living Coast, that the Householder/Community part of the project needs some explanation. The following chart lays out the project in a chronological sense, and shows the various workshops and related aspects that occurred through the life of the project.



Finding 5. The reach and effectiveness of the Household/Community Engagement program were staggering.

Rejuvenating my enthusiasm. I've 'lived it' for a long time, but to see my three year old and eighteen month old planting seeds was wonderful! [Program community participant]

Data providing evidence of this finding is extensive. In the briefest of summaries:

Over 67 community workshops were held by OLC.

Over 1,000 people across the three LGAs participated in workshops.

90 people participated in the Celebration event.

21 people attended the focus group to collect evaluative data.

184 people completed the on-line survey.

An extensive range of other contact was forged through the more than 10 festivals and major events that were supported by OLC. This extended the range of contacts to well over 15,000 people.

The community was also engaged through the media, the website, through interpretive signage and through one-on-one conversations with people engaged through Our Living Coast.

The following data supports this finding.

a. Data from the Focus Group

Twenty one people attended a focus group about the program held at Valla Beach on the 28th of November 2012. A full report is contained in the Supplementary Report – see Part C. The following are some of the selected best memories of the OLC project from those at the Focus Group.

The Workshops:

- *'Know Your Weeds' workshop. We live on two acres and I need to know this.*
- *I have many happy memories – the Food Wasting workshop – I liked it so much I've asked for a 'preserving food' book for Christmas.*
- *The Food Wastage workshop and the Electricity one, it's helped us – in leaps and bounds. Just by changing our electricity use, after the workshop our bill was much less.*
- *The day we had a guy come out and talk about the garden - and a lot of people came.*
- *The Electricity Saving night with someone who explained what was on the power bill – breaking it down - that was terrific.*

The Projects [for more detail see below]:


- *The permaculture project at the primary school was such a community thing – mostly grandparents of the students – not many young people. It's still going and gets kids involved after school. We all went down on Saturday and did work on it and they have a pizza pit there and we all had pizza.*
- *We got a great big community website out of it and that's a great thing.*

Other aspects:

- *The celebration event – the venue is part of our community.*
- *The thing I really liked was meeting like-minded people. Oh and also my husband's face when he got that weed book! He's showing it to everyone!*

- *Mine's a selfish one. I got a new washing machine courtesy of the group. It's a \$1,500 front loader. If anyone doesn't have a front loader, go and get one. Everything's cleaner!*
- *What I liked about it was getting back to simpler way of living. I grew up on a farm, growing things – it took me back to that way of living – 'village life'.*

b. Data from the Celebration Event

	<p>This event was held in Bellinghen at No 5 Church St Bellinghen on 11th November 2012. Over 80 people attended. The keynote speaker was Gilbert Rochecouste. The major activity was a Lego strategy aiming towards getting participants to: Build a landscape / story at tables (with discussion) of the Healthy Homes program: What are the program's benefits and what improvements can be made? See Supplementary Report Part C. for a description of outputs</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kids corner was great. Make it easier for people with kids to come along.</i> • <i>Building bridges toward sustainability, making people aware of the importance of protecting the environment, unlocking secrets and sharing information, reduce food miles by buying/selling farmers markets.</i> • <i>Networking where do people find out about services & workshops. Fly the flags – network among friends and neighbours.</i>

C. Data from the workshops

Workshops prior to May 2011

These are reported in the first Evaluation Report – see the following extract.

In 2010, sixteen community education workshops were held across the three Council areas. Each workshop was evaluated and Appendix 5 provides a summary of each workshop evaluation. Our Living Coast staff have been provided with a full evaluation report from each workshop and a sample of one of these can be found at Appendix 6. Workshops were held in five areas, as indicated in the Jetty research [see Appendix.1 and the full report], which formed the baseline information for the development of workshop outlines and areas of focus.

One-off Workshops May 2011 to December 2012 and other Living Smart workshops

A number of one-off workshops and three Living Smart workshops were conducted in the period between May 2011 and December 2012. The following table outlines these and for evaluation reports see Supplementary Report Part E.

2011/12 OLC One-off Workshops, which were evaluated.

Workshop title and date	Number attending/ completing evaluation	Summary of evaluation
<p>Estuarine Encounter Cruise 24th August 2011</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>All participants rated this workshop 'useful' / 'very useful' and information provided, 'valuable'/'very valuable.'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Great to hear about land use/farming and moves to be sustainable.</i> • <i>Much appreciate the Aboriginal history content.</i>
<p>Estuarine Encounter Cruise 24th September 2011</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>A highly valuable experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Excellent-information and care taken. I am very impressed by the work which has been and continues to be done on this river by the various groups.</i> • <i>Great interest, well informed- didn't realize how little we really know about the river.</i> • <i>I think it is valuable to educate older people but I think it would have far greater impact through running tours like this once/twice a year for primary schools and senior students as they are our future.</i> <p>Very positively evaluated. All saw it as 'useful' and 'valuable' or above, except for one participant 'mildly useful' / 'somewhat valuable.'</p>
<p>Bush Tucker – Canoe trip 21/7/12</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Content and presenter rated very highly.</p> <p>[Great to] <i>Have a chance to canoe Bongil, learn more about local area & bush food.</i></p> <p><i>Was very interesting & learnt new things re bush tucker, very enjoyable.</i></p>
<p>Solitary Islands Coastal Walk Tourism Workshop 15 February 2012</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>All 20 respondents said that they found the presentations clear and informative.</p> <p>In response to the statement: 'Overall I was satisfied with the workshop,' nineteen of the participants said they 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed'. One person did not answer this question. All respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that they were satisfied with the whole day.</p>

	<p>Participants said:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Great to have interpretive signage – even more important is that you promote the walks adequately and ensure that the route marked keeps people on track.</i> • <i>Made more aware of outstanding attributes of the walk and how to advance awareness.</i> <p>Note this workshop was connected to the On Ground part of the OLC project.</p>
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It should be noted that a range of other workshops have been held related to the On Ground and other aspects of the project. Where these have not been evaluated, data is not available on their reach or effectiveness.

2011/12 Living Smart Workshops

Prior to the commencement of the Healthy Homes workshops, a three by four part workshop series was held under the banner of Our Living Homes – the Living Smart Workshops. Evaluation reports on each of these are contained in Part E of the Supplementary Report. Summary data is provided below.

<p>Workshop title and date Number attending/ completing evaluation</p>	<p>Summary of evaluation</p>
<p>Living Smart Eungai Creek 21st August 2011 12/13 participants</p>	<p>Four workshop series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lots of info all very practical and good networking within the local community.</i> • <i>Excellent coordinator, excellent guest speakers and valuable info given</i> • <i>This course should be compulsory for all families especially for young people setting up their first home. This gave community members an opportunity and a forum to discuss environmental matters and so share knowledge.</i> <p>All participants ‘satisfied’, 10 ‘very satisfied.’</p> <p>Participants were asked how much the course had affected their behaviour at home. Five reported a lot of changes; six stated they had made some changes, and one reported a little change. Changes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Thinking about electric or hybrid car for the future</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ways to store water</i> • <i>Ways to heat our house and purify our indoor air</i> • <i>Rethinking the compact fluro globe situation</i> • <i>Telling friends to never clean their water tanks themselves</i> • <i>Less use of wood fire and gas heating</i> • <i>Turn off power points</i> • <i>Compost kitchen waste</i> • <i>Walk more</i> • <i>Reducing electricity consumption</i> • <i>Using less chemical for cleaning</i> • <i>Shorter showers</i> • <i>Changing my cleaning regime.</i>
<p>Living Smart Scots Head 27th August 2011</p> <p>13/13</p>	<p>Four Workshop Series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Very enjoyable as it was presented in a way we could all understand.</i> • <i>Enjoyable, informative and a good friendly community way to improve things - thanks.</i> • <i>Very interesting, it will open your eyes to our waste and damage we all do to our environment.</i> <p>Overall, all of the participants rated the above workshops as being ‘excellent’ or ‘good’ in terms of both content and presentation. With the exception of one person who felt the detox workshop was “ok” in both content and presentation.</p> <p>In addition to the four core workshops attended above, participants had also attended the following additional topics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home detox/cleaning • Composting and gardening • Organic gardening • Growing food. <p>Participants were asked how much the course had affected their behaviour at home. Over half (8/13) of participants stated they changed some of their behaviours, two stated it had changed their behaviour. Two reported a little change and one stated they had not changed at all. Examples of changes reported included:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Consolidation of several small trips into less frequent slightly longer trip. Saving electricity and saving household waste and transport. Most changes were made previous to the course.</i> • <i>Passing on tips to friends</i> • <i>Significant electricity usage change</i> • <i>Started composting</i> • <i>Improved gardening – mulching etc.</i>
<p>Living Smart Taylors Arm July August 2011 6/9</p>	<p>Four workshops were held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy • Waste • Transport • Biodiversity. <p>Participants reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Information was good</i> • <i>Teacher good</i> • <i>Loved how it came to us</i> • <i>Very informative, great ideas</i> • <i>I got lots of information on energy saving devices and learned a lot on rainwater tank maintenance</i> • <i>It stretched my mind, I'm still learning.</i> <p>People also attended other workshops and rated them positively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home detox/cleaning (5) • Tank cleaning (4). <p>All expressed a satisfaction with the Workshops' content, and quality of the presenters.</p> <p>All respondents reported that they had made behaviour changes and one said many changes had been made: These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of incentive material <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thermometer: All participants had used their thermometer • Light bulbs: 5/6 had used the light bulbs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shower timer: Two thirds (4/6) had used the shower timer• Remote power point: All had used the remote power point• All participants reported composting their organic waste.• Other changes were:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Looking into solar hot water system</i>• <i>Turning off lights</i>• <i>Checked fridge and freezer temperatures</i>• <i>Car pooling page on Facebook.</i>
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Healthy Homes Workshops

The pinnacle feature of the Our Living Coast engagement process was the series of Healthy Homes Workshops held during the last year of the project. To introduce the Healthy Homes series, two information workshops were held. These acted as trials for some of the information to be presented. In addition substantial community liaison and engagement occurred with local people across the LGAs.

Healthy Homes Information Sessions

Workshop title and date	Number attending/ completing evaluation	Summary of evaluation
<p>Healthy Homes Information Session Macksville. 17th September 2011</p>	<p>7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most participants rated the content of the workshop as ‘good’ with 2 rating it ‘fair.’ • All but one participant reported they found the facilitation ‘good,’ while the remaining participant stated it was ‘OK.’ <p>Participant feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Well done - thoughts in the right direction, every bit helps</i> • <i>Short and sweet</i> • <i>Informative</i>
<p>Healthy Homes Information Session Coffs Harbour 17th September 2011</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Comments on the content included ‘informative’ (2); ‘interesting’ (2) and ‘great.’</p> <p>Participants rated the facilitator as: <i>great; knowledgeable; well versed; well informed and very good.</i></p> <p>Participant feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Feels like something will happen, we’ve started something</i> • <i>Good pace, great to participate in the planning stage</i> • <i>Topics of interest were well introduced</i>

Eight Healthy Homes Workshop series were delivered. The following extract from the Nambucca Shire Council Website, describes the Program, as an example of how the community would have seen it promoted in a myriad of places.

Healthy Homes is our community workshop program that promotes sustainable living. All workshops are free of charge, presented by local experts and include refreshments and giveaways.

You can choose to commit to a course of four core workshops:

- *Energy – How to reduce your electricity bill*
- *Biodiversity – Growing your own food for people and wildlife*
- *Detox your Home and Green Cleaning*
- *Installing big ticket items – solar, solar hot water and rainwater tanks*

Participants receive a house sign at completion of these core workshops.

And/or you can attend workshops occasionally, depending on your interest. Additional topics are:

- *Bush tucker and aboriginal culture*
- *Waste and recycling*
- *Shopping for the planet – ethical and environmental shopping tour & feast*
- *Purchase and maintain a bicycle*
- *‘Eggsellent’ chook raising*

Come and join us to find out the latest in sustainable living for your household. Go in the draw to win a solar hot water system for your house or solar panels. Meet with others in your area interested in creating a healthy environment for you and your children.

Healthy Homes workshops were run in:

- Bowraville
- Mylestom
- Urunga
- Sawtell
- Nambucca Heads
- Macksville
- Valla Beach
- Nambucca Heads – White Albatross Caravan Park

All workshops were evaluated see Supplementary Report Part D.

At the first seven of the workshops listed above lifestyle and behaviour change data was also collected [see Part D Supplementary Report]. Substantial lifestyle data was collected at the beginning of each workshop series from 112 householders in all, across the three LGAs. Specific and detailed behaviour data was collected from 71 respondents at the end of the workshop series, in addition to that collected on the regular evaluation form.

The table below contains summary details of the outputs from of all of the Healthy Homes workshops and lifestyle and behaviour change information. It provides an extensive review of this very important part of the Our Living Coast Project.

These workshops have proved to be an outstanding example of local government co-operation and community building.

Healthy Homes Summary Table

Location, dates and number in attendance	Summary of results
<p>Bowraville</p> <p>November 2011 and April 2012.</p> <p>37 people attended</p>	<p>The data below from all sources indicates that in Bowraville:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at workshops varied substantially from 3 only at the Energy Efficiency Workshop to 20 at the Green Cleaning workshop. Twenty two people provided lifestyle data and 4 provided in depth behaviour change data. • Workshops were highly positively evaluated, substantial knowledge increase occurred at all workshops and participant expectations were met. • Participants commented that the workshops met their needs and that they were well presented. The most stated negative was that there was insufficient time to cover all the necessary content. <p>With regard to lifestyle issues – data collected from 22 households:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two respondents paid over \$700 for energy quarterly. But most people were in the \$201 to \$400 bracket. Over 75% had electric storage electricity systems; 3 had PV cells and only 5 had greenpower; few had LEDs but the majority had CFLs; over 25% had air-conditioning. ○ Most grew food at home [vegetables almost 75%]; almost all bought local food, and almost half bought fair trade food sometimes, most ate meat. ○ Almost 50% bought non-toxic cleaning products. ○ Car use was high with limited car pooling [only sometimes and 33%]. Walking quite popular but few people cycled. ○ Seventy five percent composted at home and 50% used the Council greenwaste service ○ People had varying knowledge of native plants and over 50% grew natives at home. Only two people were involved in bush regeneration. ○ Seventy five percent have a rainwater tank and use it mostly for garden watering and in the laundry and kitchen. Almost all had half flush toilets and most had low flow shower heads. <p><i>With regard to behaviour people indicated that as a result of the workshops they:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Turn the power off at the powerpoint, set their hot water system thermostats lower in summer, set fridge temperatures appropriately, improved home insulation. ○ Have cleaned out all store bought chemicals, use vinegar, bi-carb, tea tree oil, methylated spirits, cloudy

	<p><i>ammonia and borax more [or intend to do so].</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Grow more veggies herbs and fruit at home; plant indigenous plants more, mulch more.</i> ○ <i>Two people have got a quote on solar power/ hot water installation and two have already installed these.</i> ○ <i>One has installed a rainwater tank and two more intend to do so.</i>
<p>Mylestom</p> <p>November 2011 to June 2012</p> <p>43 people attended</p>	<p>The data below from all sources indicates that in Mylestom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forty three people attended the workshops; nine people completed lifestyle data and five people provide behaviour change data. ● Workshops were highly positively evaluated, substantial knowledge increase occurred at all workshops and participant expectations were met. ● Participants commented that the workshops met their needs and that they were well presented. ● Participants said it was: <i>Great having examples of things.....Very interesting and informative.....So helpful to me and very sociable- thank you!</i> ● The only negative comments related to timing of the workshops [daytime] and specific issues of detail: <i>Would have been nice to have had some samples of the different chicken feeds and grits.</i> <p>Lifestyle Issues, completed by nine householders included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two people paid more than \$700 a quarter for electricity, but most paid less than \$300/quarter ○ Three people had solar hot water but the rest had electricity. No-one had photovoltaic cells. ○ Only one person paid for greenpower [50%]. ○ Hardly anyone used LED lighting and three only used 10% CFLs. ○ Great diversity in home heating used. One aircon only though. ○ Over 50% turned off power at the switch most of the time. ○ 66% bought local food and most grew some of their own food. ○ No full time vegetarians and most ate meat almost every day. ○ Prior to the workshops only 40% purchased non toxic cleaning products. ○ Two participants travel more than 400km a week in the car. One carpooled. Four walk daily and 75% never cycle. ○ All sort waste for recycling, and only two have a rainwater tank. <p>Behaviour change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participants reported actual changes in behaviour: <i>Reduction in power bills, reduction in cleaning costs, reduction in water bills.....I am wiser about choices I make, hopefully saving \$ and time.</i> ○ Those that reported changes had changed to CFLs and intend to change to LEDs.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 50% had changed so they turned power off at the power point ○ 100% had set temperature on the fridge at 5 degrees and the freezer at -15degrees ○ All intend to stop using store bought cleaning products. All have started using vinegar and bi-carb and all but one has begun using microfiber clothes ○ More indigenous plants will be planted 40%and weds will be removed ○ 50% have got a quote for solar hot water and two have installed solar hot water systems since the workshops. ● Overall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Just a fantastic 4 sessions. Elle has been a wonderful presenter.</i> ○ <i>Thank you. Would like to see more. Thanks again</i> ○ <i>Thank you, I learnt a lot</i> ○ <i>Great workshops, good presenters, interesting topics</i> ○ <i>Really enjoyable courses, packed with information at every level by knowledgeable and friendly people.</i>
<p>Urunga</p> <p>March to June 2012</p> <p>43 people in attended</p>	<p>The data below from all sources indicates that in Urunga:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forty people in total attended the workshops with attendance remaining at a fairly constant level across the series of workshops. ● Across this series of workshop s most people found out about them via posters and notices. People did not seem to use the internet for information in Urunga. ● All four workshops met participant’s expectations. Positive responses were received about the style of the workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Very pleased I attended, look forward to the other sessions</i> ○ <i>Fantastic, thank you!</i> ● Participant’s reported significant levels of knowledge growth at each workshops, although slightly less so in the Big Ticket Items Workshop than the others. <p>With regard to lifestyle issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seven people completed the questionnaire ○ Average expenditure on energy was \$266 per household per quarter. No household spent more than 401 to \$500 per quarter. This is quite a low spend compared to other Healthy Homes workshop locations. ○ One respondent had gas and one had solar hot water. The rest were electric.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Only one participant had greenpower. ○ Few CFLs and LEDs were used for lighting. ○ Only two respondents had air conditioning and one used this for heating as well as cooling. ○ Insulation was only in ceilings for 75% of respondents and few varied thermostats on any appliances. ○ While people purchased food locally, they did not buy organic food and seemed not to be aware of ‘fair trade’ products. ○ There was some use of non-toxic cleaning products [30%] and most purchased products labeled as ‘environmentally friendly.’ ○ Car travel was quite limited –average of 100km per household per week. Very little evidence of car pooling however. ○ Walking was a popular recreational pursuit but no one in this group cycled regularly. ○ Two households had rainwater tanks and all had low flush toilets. <p>With regard to behaviour 5 people/households indicated that as a result of the workshop they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Had changed to CFLs [2] or intend to [2]. One has also changed to LEDs already. ○ Now turn off standby power at the power point [3] or intend to [2]. ○ Set thermostats for hot water [2], intend to [2] ○ Set temperature of fridge and freezer appropriately – over 80%. ○ All have moved to use natural cleaning products – vinegar and bi-carb. All now use microfibre cloths. ○ More indigenous plants planted, weeds removed and mulching. ○ 30% are moving towards big ticket purchase by getting quotes for solar hot water etc. ○ The following quotes summarise some changes made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Changed cleaning products, which actually work better and smell better.</i> ▪ <i>Working on gardening and removing weeds.</i> ▪ <i>Switching power off at wall when not in use.</i> ▪ <i>Smaller lower power bill.</i> ▪ <i>Cleaning using environmentally friendly products - better for my health.</i> ▪ <i>Use the community garden for organic food - support those gardens.</i> ▪ <i>Less erosion in the garden - all the paths mulched.</i>
Sawtell	<p>The data below from all sources indicates that in Sawtell:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifty six people attended this six workshop series. Given the amount of promotion this number was somewhat

<p>November 2011 to May 2012</p> <p>Six Workshop series.</p> <p>56 people attended</p>	<p>disappointing, although, the same people kept attending.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants found out about the workshop from a number of sources and no one promotional mechanism stood out in Sawtell. • Workshops tended to attract a younger demographic in Sawtell than elsewhere. • In all workshops expectations were well met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To learn about no dig gardening methods.</i> • <i>To learn about composting.</i> • <i>Lots of info on chooks and examples of weeds and ways of removing weeds.</i> • <i>To find out how to make better shopping decisions.</i> • Participants were very positive about the quality of the workshops. • In every workshop there were significant improvements in knowledge reported as a result of the workshop. <p>With regard to lifestyle issues raised by participants, it is noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fifteen people provided lifestyle data, but not all completed each question. ○ Most, almost 60% were aged in the 35 to 44 bracket. ○ Very limited feedback was provided about electricity costs. ○ Four respondents had solar hot water, one had gas and the remainder had electric storage systems. ○ Five respondents had PV cells. ○ 70% paid for greenpower at some level. ○ All used CFLs and over 50% of respondents used them in most lights. 40% used LEDs. ○ Three had air conditioners and the remainder had a number of methods of home heating, including slow combustion stove, and gas. Most used electricity however. ○ Few varied the thermostats on any product. ○ Most had insulation of some sort. ○ Most grew food at home, but few bought locally grown food or bought organic or fair trade food. ○ About 50% used non-toxic cleaning products ○ Cars are used but sparingly with most driving less than 100km per week. ○ Walking is a favoured recreation with over 50% walking daily. ○ People also cycle, three daily and three weekly; some less often than this. ○ People are responsible about their waste, 5 people compost at home, 4 have a worm farm and 6 use the Council's organics collection service. Others have chickens etc. ○ The level of interest in native plants and animals is varied, however 11 participants grow natives at home. ○ Two have water tanks.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Most have half flush toilets, aerators on taps etc. <p>With regard to behaviour people indicated that as a result of the workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some had made changes to their management of electricity, switches off, reduced use of standby on computers etc. Few had changed thermostat settings etc. ○ Two have switched to greenpower. ○ Over 30% had switched to natural cleaning products, or intend to. ○ Over 20% were making changes in the garden to grow their own food, mulch or remove weeds. ○ Two more have started composting and worm farming. ○ A small number have got quotes for large energy/water saving appliances. ○ In general people have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Joined small community groups and friends to help with food, gardening etc.</i> ● <i>Returned to more environmental thinking.</i> ● <i>Changed practices in regard to saving power.</i> ● <i>Commitment and preparation to home growing food.</i> ● <i>Used fewer chemicals for cleaning, easier to clean.</i>
<p>Nambucca Heads</p> <p>August to October 2012</p> <p>93 people attended</p>	<p>The data below from all sources indicates that in Nambucca:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ninety three people attended this four workshop series. Attendance levels remained good across the series. ● Participants found out about the workshop from a number of sources and no one promotional mechanism stood out in Nambucca, although the local newspaper was important. ● The workshops in Nambucca attracted an older demographic. ● All workshops evaluated very positively with the Food Waste Challenge inspiring a high level of interest. ● Presenters and workshop content were highly relevant and praised by participants. <p>With regard to lifestyle issues raised by participants, it is noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Twenty one people provided lifestyle data, but not all completed each question. ○ Over 60% spent less than 4300 per quarter on electricity ○ Seven respondents had solar hot water services and electric storage hot water systems were used by the majority of respondents. ○ Five households had PV cells for generating electricity, although they were quite small systems.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Only two respondents were signed up for greenpower. ○ Most people used CFLs to a large extent and some [40%] used LEDs. ○ Five people used air conditioning for heating [and cooling] and 7 used gas heating. ○ Very few changed the thermostat on appliances. ○ Over 65% turned off switches. ○ Most participants grew food at home and bought local food at least sometimes. Few purchased organic food often but well over 50% purchased it sometimes. ○ Thirteen respondent use non-toxic cleaning products. ○ Cars are not used extensively. Almost 60% drive less than 100km per week. ○ Fourteen respondents car pool, at least sometimes. ○ Nambucca people are walkers, - 14 walk daily; but they are not cyclers - 75% never cycle. ○ Over 50% compost at home and 33% worm farm. Everyone recycles. ○ Most grow native plants at home but have a low knowledge base about biodiversity – although 20% were bush regenerators. ○ Seven households had water tanks – 33%. ○ Most had some water saving devices installed – half flush toilets and low flow showers were the most popular. <p>With regard to behaviour, nine people completed this survey and indicated that as a result of the workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some had made changes to their management of electricity, switches off, reduced use of standby on computers etc. Few had changed thermostat settings etc. ○ Three [14%] had installed PV cells. ○ Four [19%] had installed solar hot water systems ○ Well over 50% have made changes to cleaning regimes, involving more use of natural cleaners. Four participants had cleaned out all store bought cleaners and four others intended to do so. Almost 50% had switched to using microfiber cloths. ○ More people are growing indigenous plants, mulching and removing weeds [about 30%]. ○ Almost 30% are shopping more ethically and the same percentage intend to. ○ People are purchasing more organic food and fair trade products. There is an increase in planned shopping, better food storage [50%] and preserving [20%]. <p>Relevant comments about behaviour change include:</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I found that some things are very good to follow: other things I have been doing for years.</i> • <i>Weed in garden. My garden looks better.</i> • <i>I have been good about food waste.</i> • <i>I try to shop ethically.</i> • <i>Less packaging. Less car trips, Less petrol.</i> • <i>Spending less on cleaning items.</i> • <i>Feel better about doing the right thing, assume I'm saving money re power etc.</i> • <i>Yes I am more diligent at what I do with my food, garden waste.</i> • <i>Fewer trips to supermarkets - increased wellbeing.</i>
<p>Macksville Healthy Homes. August to October 2012.</p> <p>78 people attended</p>	<p>The data below from all sources indicates that in Macksville:</p> <p>The workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seventy eight people attended the four workshop series in Macksville. • The vast majority were women and approximately 50% were over 55 years of age. • The workshops were very positively evaluated with content and facilitators being highly praised. • Expectations were largely met and substantial increases in knowledge resulted from each of the four workshops. • There was some evidence of intent to change behaviour immediately after each workshop. <p>With regard to lifestyle issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nineteen people completed the lifestyle questionnaire, seventeen of these were women. • Mean expenditure on electricity per quarter was \$300 to \$400 which was quite high compared to other locations. • Seven respondents had solar hot water and eleven used electricity [storage systems] to heat water. • Two respondents had PV cells – capacity unknown. • Seven respondents were purchasing greenpower but none at more than a 50% rate. • CFLs were popular but most at a level less than 100% of lighting. • LEDs were less used. Seven respondents had none. • Seven respondents had air conditioning – all modified thermostat depending on season. • Most had insulation but only in the ceiling. • Most turned off power at the switch on appliances, at least some of the time.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All grew some of their own food and purchased locally grown food at least some of the time. Many bought organic food but few purchased fair trade food and drink. • Over 50% used non toxic cleaning products. • Car use was limited although 2 participants drove more than 1,200kms per week and another drove over 400kms. • Very little car pooling occurred on a regular basis [3 only]. • Walking is popular with 45% walking daily and a similar number walking 2/3 times a week • Cycling is not used by many as a form of transport or recreation [four only]. • Over 50% have a compost bin at home and one has a worm farm. • There is low knowledge about biodiversity, but 16 respondents grow native plants at home. • Nine have stormwater tanks and almost all use water saving devices. <p>Behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifteen people completed the behaviour survey post workshop series. • Seventy percent had changed light bulbs to CLFs and 33% had changed some to LEDs. • Most had [or intend to] turned off appliances from standby power. • Very few had changed thermostat settings, except in the fridge [50%] • Three had installed PV cells and 5 had installed solar. • Well over 50% were using more non toxic cleaning products, especially vinegar and bi-carb. • More indigenous planning was occurring and improved weeding – 50%. Mulching was also being undertaken more by 65% of respondents. • More ethical shopping was occurring and almost 65% were using their own shopping bags. • Purchasing organic foods was also increasing. • Much less food was being wasted. • <i>Electricity usage is down because we are being smarter.</i>
<p>Healthy Homes Report</p> <p>Valla Beach</p>	<p>The data below from all sources indicates that in Valla Beach:</p> <p>The workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixty four people attended the four workshop series in Valla Beach. • The vast majority of the groups were women and approximately 50% were over 55 years of age. • All of the workshops were very positively evaluated with content and facilitators being highly praised. There was a

<p>64 people attended.</p>	<p>remarkable consistency between workshops even if different presenters were used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expectations were largely met and substantial increases in knowledge resulted from each of the four workshops. • An exceptionally high growth in knowledge was evident. • There was some evidence of intent to change behaviour immediately after each workshop. <p>With regard to lifestyle issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nineteen people completed the lifestyle questionnaire. • Average spend on electricity per quarter was more than \$450, which was quite high, comparatively. • Six households had solar hot water and 3 had instantaneous gas systems. The rest heated water by use of electricity. • Two household had PV cells but the capacity was small. • Only one household subscribed to greenpower. • Most used CFLs, with a significant percentage using them on more than 50% of lights. • There was a low level use of LEDs. • Five households had air conditioning and four used it on reverse cycle, to heat the home. • Four had gas heating. • At least 50% used the thermostat on heating and cooling appliances to control temperature appropriately. • Most had insulation at home and turned off power on standby. • All respondents bought local food, at least some of the time and many purchased organic food, but few purchased fair trade food and drink. • Over 75% used non-toxic cleaners. • Mean car use per week was well over 200km. • About 50% of respondents car pool but not regularly. • Walking is popular and cycling is not. • 5% of people compost at home and two more worm farm. All recycle. • Knowledge of native plants is relatively low. • Eight have a rainwater tank and the vast majority have dual flush toilets and low flow shower heads. <p>Behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirteen people completed the behaviour change questionnaire. • Substantial self reported changes were made as a result of the workshops. • Almost 100% turn off computers etc rather than using standby power. • Most have set thermostats more appropriately to season/need.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two have installed PV cells and eight have installed water tanks. • Most are now using non-toxic cleaners, especially vinegar, clove oil and bi-carb. • More people [7] are planting indigenous plants at home. • Weeding and mulching behaviour has increased. • Eight people are using the Ethical Shopping Guide regularly and there is increased shopping for fair trade items. • Less food is being wasted and more is stored appropriately.
<p>Healthy Homes Report</p> <p>White Albatross Caravan Park Nambucca Heads</p> <p>63 people attended</p>	<p>Healthy Homes workshops were held in the White Albatross Caravan Park Nambucca Heads between October 2011 and June 2012. Workshop topics were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy • Waste • Composting • Tree planting <p>Total attending: 63 in the four workshops. Energy and attendance level dropped after the first workshop.</p> <p>Data that is available indicated that participants were satisfied with the content of the first workshop and that they were satisfied/very satisfied with the style of the workshop.</p> <p>There was substantial self reported knowledge in this group and some indication of change in behavioural intent. Behaviour change included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intention to change gardening and composting behaviour - 49% of attendees. • Significant changes to be made re energy use. <p>No Lifestyle or specific behaviour change data was collected at these workshops.</p>

Finding 6. No matter how good a program, there is always room for improvement.

There are three areas of improvement that emerge from the evaluation data.

- a. Many respondents suggested improvements related to promotion of the workshops [and events].** The level of use of on line aspects was questioned by some participants. The quotes below from the focus group and other participants summarise this:

Improvements: Better advertising of events – community noticeboards, hospital notice board, schools, consistent design, visual impact, library, door knocking, sending letters/emails, community post offices. Child friendly. If you miss one do you have to miss all? Registration. Telephone communication for people with no computer facilities [Focus Group feedback]

Processing registrations was ‘clunky’ and difficult to use on website.

If you are not computer literate it was not easy to get information or follow up.

If you don’t have email you didn’t get newsletters.

- b. Some suggested a wider spread on engagement is required.** While the workshops did not just reach the ‘converted,’ the following quotes relate to broadening the target into the future

I’d like to see more for training up the younger people.

It’s already happening in schools’ community gardens, but I’d like to reach the young ones who’ve left school.

The older residents are more committed; we need the mid-range age group.

Workshops conducted in Youth Centres – bush tucker, herbs etc.

- c. Some said just getting to more people in an ongoing way is needed.** There was a sense that the project had just got real momentum and it was over.

We have only just begun, more workshops and events needed.

Small Community Environmental Projects

Finding 7. The Small community projects added significant value to the project and kept local groups working together following their attendance at the workshops. This sets a real opportunity for the future.

We need more Our Living Coast. The combination of workshops and community projects was terrific. If only we could do it in our community again I am sure that other people would get involved. [Participant at Focus group]

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Criteria for Small community environmental projects



Healthy Homes

Community Environmental Projects Criteria

The Healthy Homes program has a community project component where at the conclusion of a workshop series the group is eligible for funds to undertake a community environmental initiative.

Criteria:

1. The definition of a group can either be the workshop participants who have consistently attended a workshop series &/or a group must involve a member who has consistently attended workshops.
2. A group can access up to \$2,000 for a project. A group could decide to do more than one project but they would have to add up to no more than \$2,000 in total.
3. The project must promote the protection of the local environment and community wellbeing.
4. Preference will be given to establishing a new initiative.
5. The successful projects must recognise the support of Our Living Coast and use the logo in accordance with grant requirements.
6. If funds are going directly to a contractor, Coffs Harbour purchasing policies will apply.
7. In the event that there are projects competing for the funds a final decision will be made based on merit by the Our Living Coast Project team.
8. The granted funds must be spent in full by 31 October 2012. A progress report should be submitted after 3 months or before completion and photo's as evidence of the project should be taken during its undertaking.
9. Where possible an opportunity for an official launch of the project with the local mayor in attendance or an Our Living Coast representative is desirable.

Examples of possible projects:

- Improving environmental performance of community facilities
- Establishing a community garden
- Food swaps
- Edible landscapes
- Community environmental film festival
- Community waste facilities i.e. compost bins
- Local stream and creek rehabilitation
- Stormwater stencilling

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- Treeplanting
- Establishing community chooks run by a collective.



Our Living Coast has been running for two years in the Coffs Coast region. Healthy Homes is the sustainable living program that over 500 residents have been involved in. Community workshop programs were held in various locations and at the conclusion community project grants were undertaken by residents.

Participants in the Focus Group indicated that the local community projects were very successful. For a small outlay, they achieved an enormous amount. In summary, they said:

- *Nambucca Refresh Garden at the Youth Centre. 'Juice Garden' - social, education for youth, which was a missed target in the workshops.*
- *Citrus orchard planted in the football park – difficult to decide if it's successful.*
- *Taylor's Arm Website is successful at being a hub for community events, community building, history of the area etc.*
- *Sawtell – tree planting was delivered well, but a long term project, success unknown.*
- *Valla – blinds to be installed in hall - will be very successful as the hall is well used.*
- *The landscaping at the entrance to Valla Beach creates hope, pride and connectivity – a good start.*
- *Macksville flower boxes started well – 20 to be done. Looks good and has received positive comments*
- *Bowraville Flying Fox – successful.*
- *Scotts Head group got worm farms and compost bins which is great.*
- *Urunga got a fridge (for hall) that will save on electricity bills and a herb garden for the preschool.*
- *Scotts Head community garden has been very successful.*

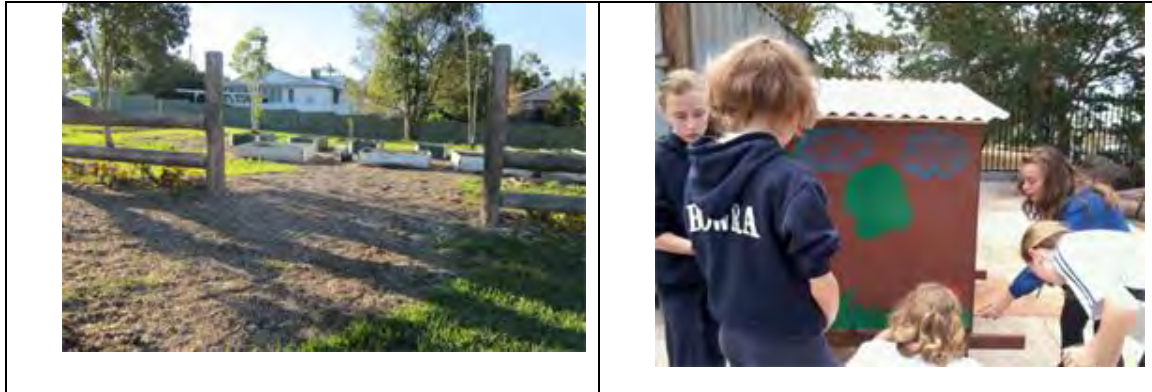
Community Project Grants Summary Report

Community Group projects of up to \$2,000 were awarded to small projects of community benefit open to each workshop group, to apply and administer, that have completed the four “core” workshops.

Bowraville

Established a chook house at the Bowraville Central School and funding for the community garden.

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Eungai Creek

The grant was used to insulate the community hall which was desperately cold in winter and boiling hot in summer. They also installed some blinds to help with the insulation.



Eungai Creek community hall

Macksville

The group decided to beautify the streetscape by painting the pot plants on the town streetscape. One participant said: *Macksville flower boxes started well – 20 to be done. Looks good and has received positive comments.*

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Mylestom

Established a herb garden for the preschool and bought an energy efficient fridge for the community hall. The herb garden is being maintained by the preschool and includes the planting of two citrus trees. One participant commented:

The permaculture project at the primary school was such a community thing – mostly grandparents of the students – not many young people. It’s still going and gets kids involved after school. We all went down on Saturday and did work on it and they have a pizza pit there and we all had pizza.

The community hall is a hub of activity including the playgroup, local GP, CWA use, library and other community groups.

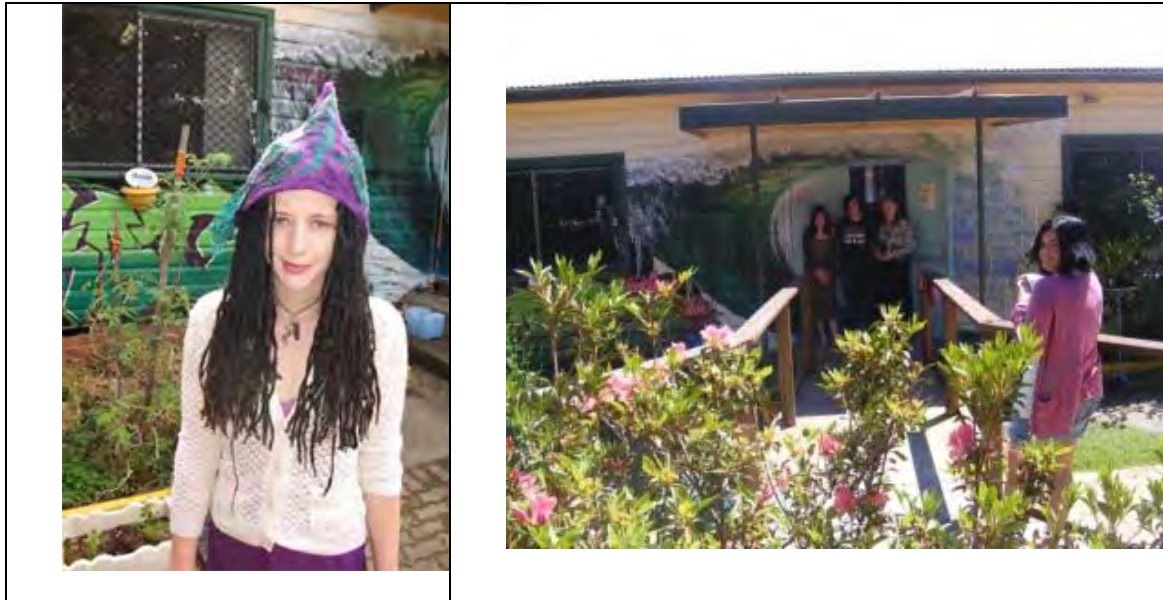


Nambucca Heads

Established a community vegetable garden at the Nambucca Heads Youth Centre. One participant said that this was the best part of the project:

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Nambucca Refresh Garden at the Youth Centre. 'Juice Garden' - social, education for youth, which was a missed target in the workshops



Sawtell

The group nominated to establish a citrus grove in Sawtell at the local primary school and at the end of Sixteenth Ave. This has challenged the local council to consider edible streetscapes and developing a policy for Coffs Harbour to respond to community interest.



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Scotts Head

The group tried very hard to find a community project to no avail. In the end they decided upon purchasing animal and bird nesting boxes and worm farms for the participating households.



Taylor's Arm

The Taylor's Arm group nominated to develop a website to promote the community, businesses and markets. Being a fairly remote location this was seen as appropriate.

(<http://www.taylor'sarm.com.au/>)



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One respondent said: *Taylor's Arm Website is successful at being a hub for community events, community building, history of the area etc.*

Urunga

The group nominated that the Urunga Neighbourhood Centre get the grant. Originally it was for a solar hot water system but after investigation this was not appropriate for the site and was difficult to negotiate as it was a leased property. So instead they organized an instantaneous hot water service. As a result they are saving 6kWh per day.

	
<p>Old Hot Water Service</p>	<p>New Instantaneous system</p>

Valla Beach

The Valla Rural community hall was very grateful to receive the grant to install insulation blinds to the hall which is very drafty in winter. The remaining \$300 is to be spent on plants for the entrance to Valla Beach as you come off the highway. This area is being rehabilitated by the community.

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A quote in regards to the grant for Valla Hall

The hall committee was very grateful for the generous donation and will certainly help complete the project to enclose the lovely big veranda from cold windy days and nights when the hall is occupied with their many organised functions.

Other Aspects of Householder/Community Engagement

Finding 8. A range of aspects working together engaged people in the project and brought significant results.

Incentives

There was a strong use of incentives in the program. These were designed to attract people to it and to educate those involved about sustainable living and sustainable products. The following extract from the Newsletter provides an example.

Andrew Moran and his household of six welcomed the announcement of winning the major prize for being involved in the Healthy Homes evaluation program.

A 10 litre Panasonic washing machine with 4.5 stars for energy rating and 4.5 stars for WELS water rating is being installed in his home in Macksville. They have calculated they will use 50% less water than their current machine.

Congratulations to the Morans and the environment!!

The Morans attended the Focus Group and made this comment when discussing the best part of the program [see Part C of the Supplementary Report]. *Mine's a selfish one. I got a new washing machine*

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courtesy of the group. It's a \$1,500 front loader. If anyone doesn't have a front loader, go and get one. Everything's cleaner!

Other much smaller incentives worked too; for example, again from the focus group: *The thing I really liked was meeting like-minded people. Oh and also my husband's face when he got that weed book! He's showing it to everyone!*

I liked the 'gifts' - the free trees were good.

Education materials

Given the breadth and extent of the program there were a vast number of education materials, print and on-line provided. Some of these were large and remained in play for the whole project; for example, Report 1 provides the following feedback about the *Sustainable Living Guide*.

Important among the material on the website and available to the community through Our Living Coast is the Sustainable Living Guide. Developed in conjunction with The Natural Strategies Group, this Guide is designed to help residents who live within the Our Living Coast region comprising Coffs Harbour City Council, Bellingen Shire Council and Nambucca Shire Council to take action to live more sustainably at home and in the community. The Guide contains ideas, tips and inspiration about how small, easy changes can have positive impacts on the environment and health and wellbeing – and save money too.

The information contained in the Newsletter rated very highly, as indicated from the following findings from the Survey:

- *We have had nothing like the Our Living Coast project in our shire and all information contained in the newsletters was useful, whether I went or not.*
- *It contained great, easy to understand information.*

Other comments on the materials that provide a sense of their effectiveness and relevance are as follows:

- All Healthy Homes workshop participants rated the course notes highly [See Part D of the Supplementary Report] and summary above.
- The Survey results indicate that Facebook and the Website were also a great source of information: *Eighty four percent [108 people] indicated that the Website was either 'useful' or 'very useful' with a relatively small 7.8% [10 people] indicating it was only 'a little bit useful.'*
- A person at the focus group said that the best part of the project was: *The Electricity Saving night with someone who explained what was on the power bill – breaking it down - that was terrific.*

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The extent of community engagement

Throughout this entire report it is clear that people got engaged, they volunteered, they wanted to do more and to do life differently. Sure there were some disappointments, but the energy and enthusiasm outweighed these.



Bowraville Community Garden

As reported elsewhere this level of engagement is a real opportunity for the future. This is a legacy of substance for Our Living Coast.

Other OLC Projects not reported elsewhere

Sustainable Living Festival (2010-12). Three festivals and workshops at each – see the Findings in the Sustainability Hub Section of this Report.

Healthy Homes held stalls and promoted the program at Botanica Festival as well as giving out incentives such as plants, energy saving thermometers, NABERS rating cards and branded water bottles.

In 2012 Healthy Homes had a 1.5kw solar PV system as a prize for evaluation of the Botanica Fair Day.

Coastal Ambassadors Program

The program, which has adopted the OLC branding, trains community volunteers to run coastal walks across the Coffs Coast. Three extensive Train-the-Trainer projects have been run by the Council in this joint program with the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS). Fifteen guides have been accredited by the project and over twelve hundred people have been involved in walks organised by the program (over 80% of these are local to the area). Because they are volunteers accredited guides choose this location and topic. Council markets the program and NPWS provides the quality control.

All programs have an information and a behaviour focus. Sixty nine percent of those who participated indicated that they intended to change behaviour as a result of the program. Three months after the

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program over 90% of these people indicated that they had made the changes that they had intended to make.

In 2012, Coffs Ambassadors Tours won the Communications, Education and Empowerment Award at the NSW Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards.

Did Behaviour Change Occur?

Finding 9. People changed their behaviour because of Our Living Coast Householder /Community Engagement part of the project.

Throughout this report there is evidence that Our Living Coast has had a significant impact on people's behaviour; sustainable living has increased, volunteering is evident and people across the area are more active in social and environmental sustainability. Aggregating changes made is a challenging task because of the huge number and diversity of workshops delivered and evaluated and the different evaluation mechanisms used. Quantifying these changes is always challenging, especially in a project as large and diverse as Our Living Coast.

The material below does just that. It does not attempt to capture every change by every individual in every program. It provides some aggregation of some of the actual changes that resulted, that have been made.

a. Evidence from the evaluation of the workshops

All workshops delivered in the Our Living Coast Project were evaluated. At each of those conducted in the eighteen months after the Progress Report, self reported behavioural intent data was collected, because the content of the workshops was designed to promote real change. The Workshop evaluation reports [See Supplementary Report Parts D and E] contain significant information about the changes that participants were intending to make as a result of the workshop. This is important information but it is both self reported, and intent to change. Therefore no real attempt has been made to aggregate it and report on it.

Where possible, when the workshop was a part of a series, [Living Smart or Healthy Homes] some actual behaviour change data was also collected. As the project matured it became more adept at delivering content for behaviour change and identifying change that had occurred. This was especially the case in the Healthy Homes series of workshops. The evaluation forms however, still give self reported change and involve a large orientation towards behavioural intent.

The collection of behavioural data from workshop participants at the conclusion of the Workshop series provided more actual behaviour data. Certainly it was still self reported, but rarely, except in major research studies, is objective data able to be located. Specific and detailed behaviour data was collected from 71 respondents at the end of the Workshop series, in addition to that collected on the regular evaluation form.

In summary this information indicated that within the 71 households, and as a result of Healthy Homes:

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- Ten had purchased photovoltaic cells
- Thirteen had purchased solar hot water
- Nine had purchased water tanks [which were already quite extensively used according to the lifestyle data]
- Over 60% had planted indigenous plants
- Well over 50% had reduced the use of standby power, by turning appliances off at the wall
- Almost 30% had started composting/worm farming
- Over 60% were using non-toxic cleaning products, at least some of the time. Vinegar and bi-carb were being used by most respondents.

This is not to say that these were the only changes made – they provide a snapshot of a sample at a point in time. The real news is much better than this. As one respondent in the focus group said: *Maureen changed the type of fish she bought, planted more trees, became more aware of turning power off at the wall and met new friends.*

b. Evidence from the survey

See Survey Report for detailed findings. It is important to note that because of the time lapse between workshop/newsletter and data collection, the survey reports actual behaviour changed – i.e. beyond behavioural intent.

The Newsletter alone prompted behaviour change

Of the 164 people who completed the survey and had read the Newsletter, 42.7% made lifestyle choices related to information that was provided in the Newsletter. This is a pleasing result, because it indicates a level of change that is much higher than that achieved from other social change/social justice publications. Achieving change via written publication is a challenging exercise and this finding is highly important. See detailed results below.

Did you make any changes to your lifestyle which you read about in the Our Living Coast Newsletter?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	42.7%	70
No	35.4%	58
Unsure	22.0%	36

The majority of people attending workshops (83%) made changes in their lifestyle as a result of Workshops

Almost 83% of those who attended the workshops and completed the survey indicated that they made changes as a result of the workshops. This is a satisfying and compelling result. The capacity of the workshops to promote behaviour shift was a key objective of this program and the fact that change was made is an important finding.

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Did you make any changes to your lifestyle which you learnt about in the workshop/s? (Please select one)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	82.8%	72
No	12.6%	11
Unsure	4.6%	4

Many gave multiple answers and so it is incorrect to assume that each respondent made just one change.

Quotes indicating that multiple changes were made include:

I have become more aware of ensuring I have no food waste. I have "stand alone" power, so I was very interested in conserving power. I have begun to use bicarbonate of soda in my washing and cleaning. This was a result of the Green Cleaning workshop.

Heaps - weeds, knowing what is and what is not, saving water and how to, thinking about your power and how to save money and use, gardening what brings the right bugs into your garden I could go on, I have learnt heaps not only from the presenters but also from the people attending the workshops.

Now I use homemade cleaning solutions and have more native plants in my garden and removed the non-native potentially bioweeds.

Eighty percent of respondents indicated their intention to make further sustainability lifestyle changes into the future.

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The Sustainability Hub

The following were the desired Outcomes for the Sustainability Hub component of the program.

Sustainability Hub		
Ultimate	Users of the Hub start to change their practices; for example change of light globes, alternate shopping bags etc.	H1. What evidence is there of community behaviour change as a result of the Project?
Intermediate	Community awareness of priority sustainability issues and actions is increased. Increasing use of the Hub is evidenced by measuring and providing information about hits and visitors.	H2. What evidence exists of increased community awareness of the existence of the Hub? H3. What data exists about use of the Hub?
Immediate	A Sustainability Hub is completed and is available live on-line; providing information to the community on how to achieve sustainability. Baseline assessment of information occurs that identifies what could be provided to the community on sustainability.	H4. Is the Hub available and working live on-line? H5. Has information been sourced and placed on the Hub?

As the OLC project has grown [see above] so has the view of what is in the Sustainability Hub. Originally it included only the OLC Website but given the growth in other products and activities the Hub now includes the following:

- The OLC Website
- The OLC Facebook page
- The OLC Newsletter
- The Sustainable Living Festival
- Other events and activities targeted more broadly than at householders.

The findings below relate to all components of what is now seen as the Sustainability Hub.

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Finding 10. The Coffs Coast Sustainable Living Festival is an important event supported by OLC and leads to changes in behaviour, community connection and more community awareness of sustainability.

The following data summarises the Festival evaluation report, which is found in Part F of the Supplementary Report.

About the Festival

The Festival comprised the following events and was supported by OLC

- Saturday 3rd November - "Local Food Film Festival" @ Bunker Cartoon Gallery
- Sunday 4th November - "Botanica Spring Fair Day" @ North Coast Regional Botanic Garden - Hosted by Gardening Australia Host - Costa Georgiadis
- Wednesday 7th November- TAFE Expo Day @ Coffs Harbour Education Campus
- Thursday 8th November - "Show us Ya Dish" @ Growers Markets, City Centre Mall.
- Saturday 10th November - Sustainable Living Workshops @ North Coast Regional Botanic Garden and other satellite locations.

Introduction

The following contains the results of an evaluation of the Coffs Harbour Sustainable Living Festival, attended by over 5,000 people in November 2012. It also contains evaluative data from eleven workshops held at the Festival.

Summary of results – Festival Evaluation

One hundred and ninety four participants in the festival completed evaluation forms; this is almost 4% of all attendees. One hundred and sixty nine of these people lived in Coffs Harbour [87%] and most heard about the Festival through the local newspaper [61%].

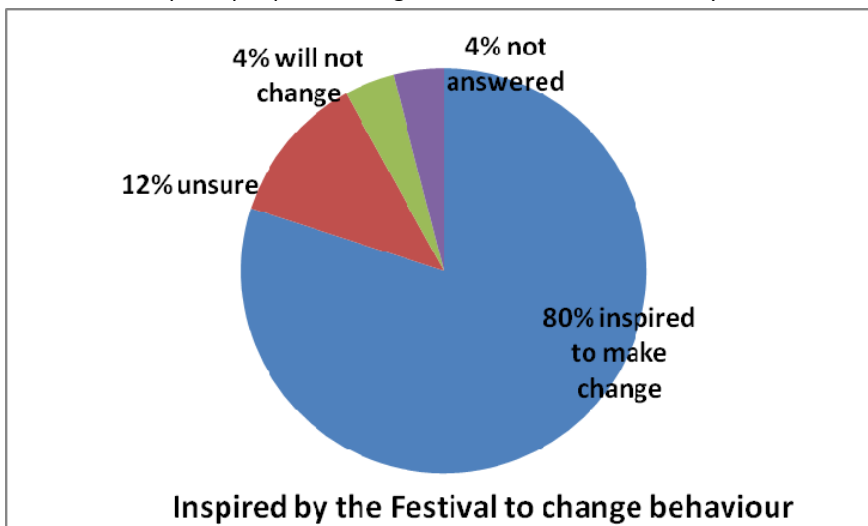
There were a large number of reasons given for attending the Festival but most related to having a good day out and/or learning more about sustainability.

There was a high level of satisfaction with the event.

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The Festival inspired people to change behaviour for sustainability.



Nominated behaviour changes included

- Spend more time on the vegie garden. +4
- Plant more local natives.
- Grow even more of our own produce and reduce dependence on supermarkets.
- I'm always keen to try new things.
- To live out in the bush.
- Make better compost, soil. Save water etc. It seems a lot of help is available.
- Grow more food +3

Note that 4% said they 'will not change' but most indicated that: *I am already behaving sustainably.*

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Costa Georgiadis – Gardening Australia – at the Festival

The Festival also saw the delivery of a number of Workshops, eight of which were evaluated and the report of the evaluation is to be found in the Supplementary Report Part F. Key findings were, in summary:

- 101 people attended eight Workshops held during the festival and evaluated.
- The Workshops drove significant intention to change. At all workshops apart from one, in excess of 75% of participants indicated an intention to change their behaviour as a result of the Workshop. At three Workshops data indicated that more than 90% will change behaviour.
- All Workshops were well evaluated. Two comments only indicated that the content was ‘too basic.’ In all other cases participants indicated that they were ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ with the content.
- The facilitation of the Workshops was highly valued by the participants.
- The following comments represented the participant’s views: *fantastic, super excellent, great*. No negative views were expressed.

The Sustainable Living Festival 2010 –Extract from Report 1- Progress

The following extract from the first OLC Evaluation Report provides data about the initial Sustainable Living Festival.

The first annual Sustainable Living Festival for the Coffs Coast was held on 13-17 October 2010. This Festival promotes a sustainable lifestyle for organisations and families. Our Living Coast was a major sponsor of the event. The Sustainable Living Festival was a carbon-neutral event that met best practice in energy management, minimising waste, recycling, eco-printing and biodegradable consumables in food areas. People attending the festival were encouraged to travel by public transport or bicycle.

In order to obtain some benchmark data about what people were doing to be more sustainable a short survey was conducted. Those who completed forms [99 respondents] were asked to indicate which of the actions was part of their lifestyle now; the results are as follows.

Energy

<i>Change light bulbs to low energy bulbs</i>	<i>97%</i>
<i>Turn off second fridge when not in use</i>	<i>86%</i>

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<i>Install insulation to ceiling and/or floor and/or walls</i>	87%
Waste	
<i>Sorting waste into recycling, composting and rubbish</i>	98%
<i>Bring your own shopping bags</i>	96%
<i>Use home water bottles instead of buying water in plastic bottles</i>	97%
Food	
<i>Grow vegetables and or fruit at home</i>	84%
Transport	
<i>Walk and or cycle to work</i>	87%
<i>Share transport to work</i>	44%
Alternative technology	
<i>Solar Hot Water System</i>	62%

Note: It is important to note that these people are not representative of the broader community and their responses should not be taken as the norm for people in the Our Living Coast catchment. It is highly unlikely that a more representative sample would have produced these results.

The Sustainable Living Festival 2011 was also supported by Our Living Coast. It was held on the 5th of November 2011 and the concurrent workshops were evaluated. There were workshops conducted about Gardening at the Botanic Gardens and Costa Georgiadis conducted a workshop about Community Gardens. A brief summary of the evaluation highlights appears in the table below

Workshop	Number attending	Level of satisfaction	Behaviour change	Other comments
Sustainable Gardening	43	35 participants were 'very satisfied and 8 were 'satisfied.'	Participants indicated that they would make the following changes at home: Design of garden & uses of parts of the garden; Zoning of Areas; Garden Planning; Zone/Layout Become more self sustainable; Consistency; Hands on Workshop; Improvements to Soil; Compost; Apply the Knowledge; Compost more; Use of additives to soil; Garden design; Plantings; Learn More; Badger Council more for help; Follow up some topics; read the fine print more;	Just Great Great introduction to Sustainable Living Good community service Great Workshop Thanks - Well Done!!
Community Gardening	18	All 18 participants were very satisfied and rated the workshop highly.	Respondents said they would: Garden with others more, Listen & Learn, Be more sustainable, Make one at home More variety in the soil, Lasagne technique, Composting, Build Garden Beds, Companion Planting, Bigger Gardens, Focus on No Dig, Find Crushed rock, Everything, Lots, Practice new technique,	General Comments Energetic, Engaging & Fun, Excellent, Good, Very Interesting, Very engaging Legend !!, Great, Awesome!!!, Very

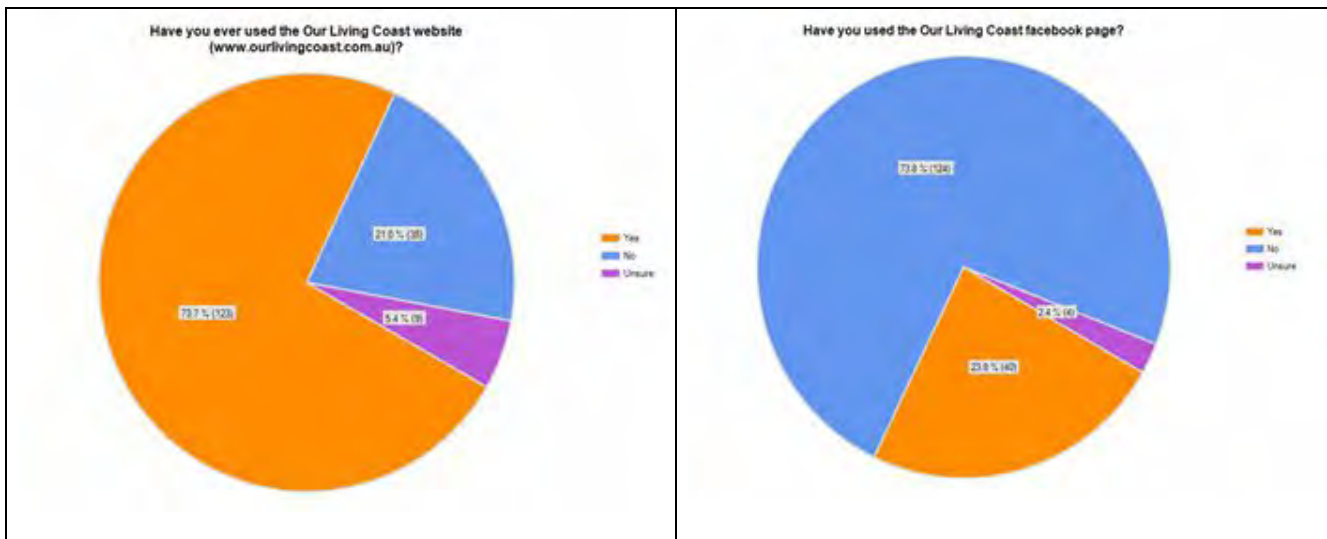
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				Good, Great, Terrific
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Finding 11. The Our Living Coast Website and Facebook Page are important parts of the Hub and deliver information effectively and promote shifts in behaviour.

The survey results [see Our Living Coast End of Program Participant’s Survey] indicated that the community engaged with both the OLC Website and Facebook, however the engagement with the Website was stronger. Satisfaction levels for both Website and Facebook was high.

Below is a comparison of whether respondents used the OLC Website and Facebook page. The results are almost inversed with 73.7% [123] of people responding that they use the Website while 73.8% [124] of people reported not using Facebook. This could in part correlate with the older age group of respondents who typically have not embraced social media like Facebook. It is noted that the Facebook page and the website are complementary strategies for engagement, along with the Newsletter and the workshops and the events. As such the variation in the reach of each method is to be expected.

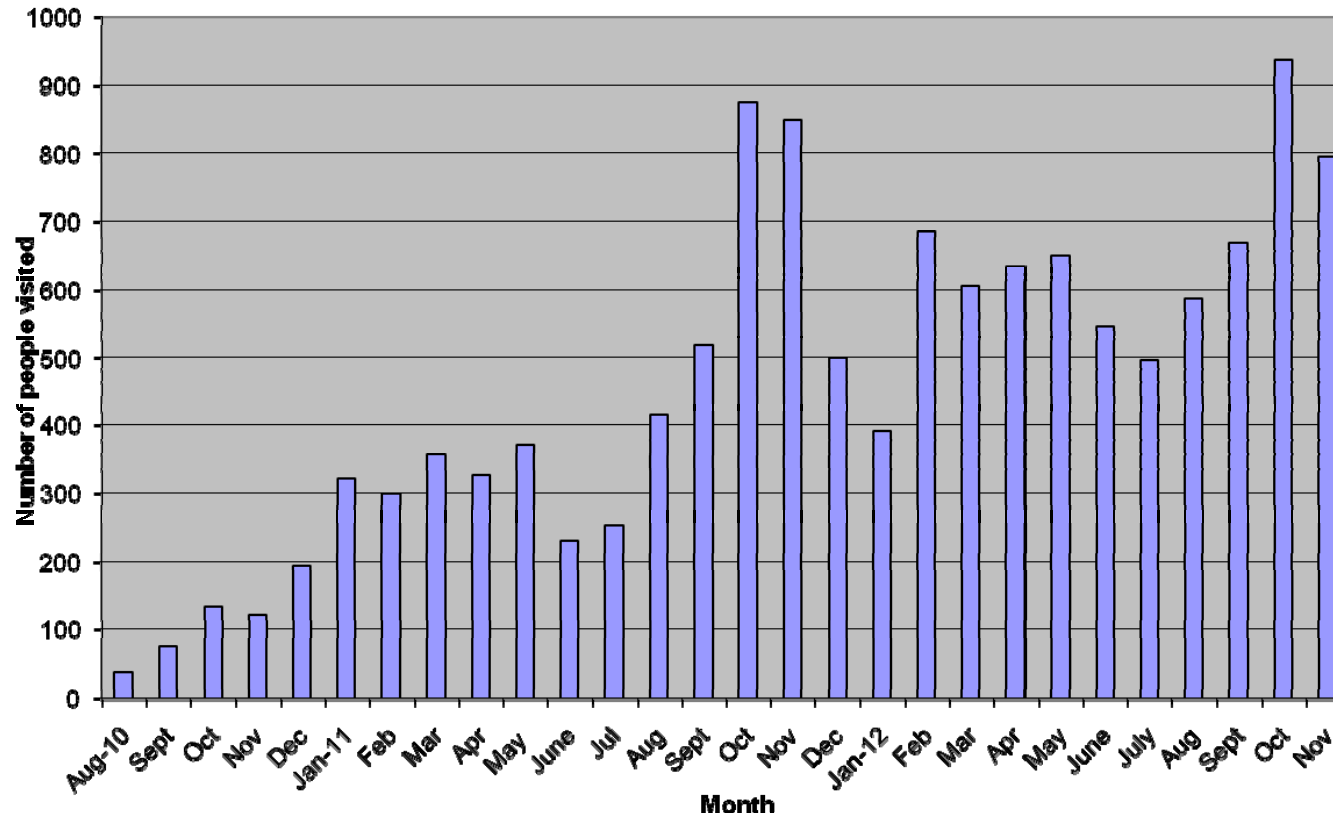


Eighty four percent [108 people] indicated that the Website was either ‘useful’ or ‘very useful’ with a relatively small 7.8% [10 people] indicating it was only ‘a little bit useful.’ No-one thought the website was ‘not useful’ however 8.5% [11 people] were ‘unsure’ whether it was useful. This latter group probably reflects on occasional website users.

The following charts provide key data re website use to July 2012. They indicate the number of visitors to the site – an average of almost 500 people per month; the number of visits to the site; the most popular pages visited and the percentage of visitors that return to the site.

Number of visitors by month from August 2010 to November 2012

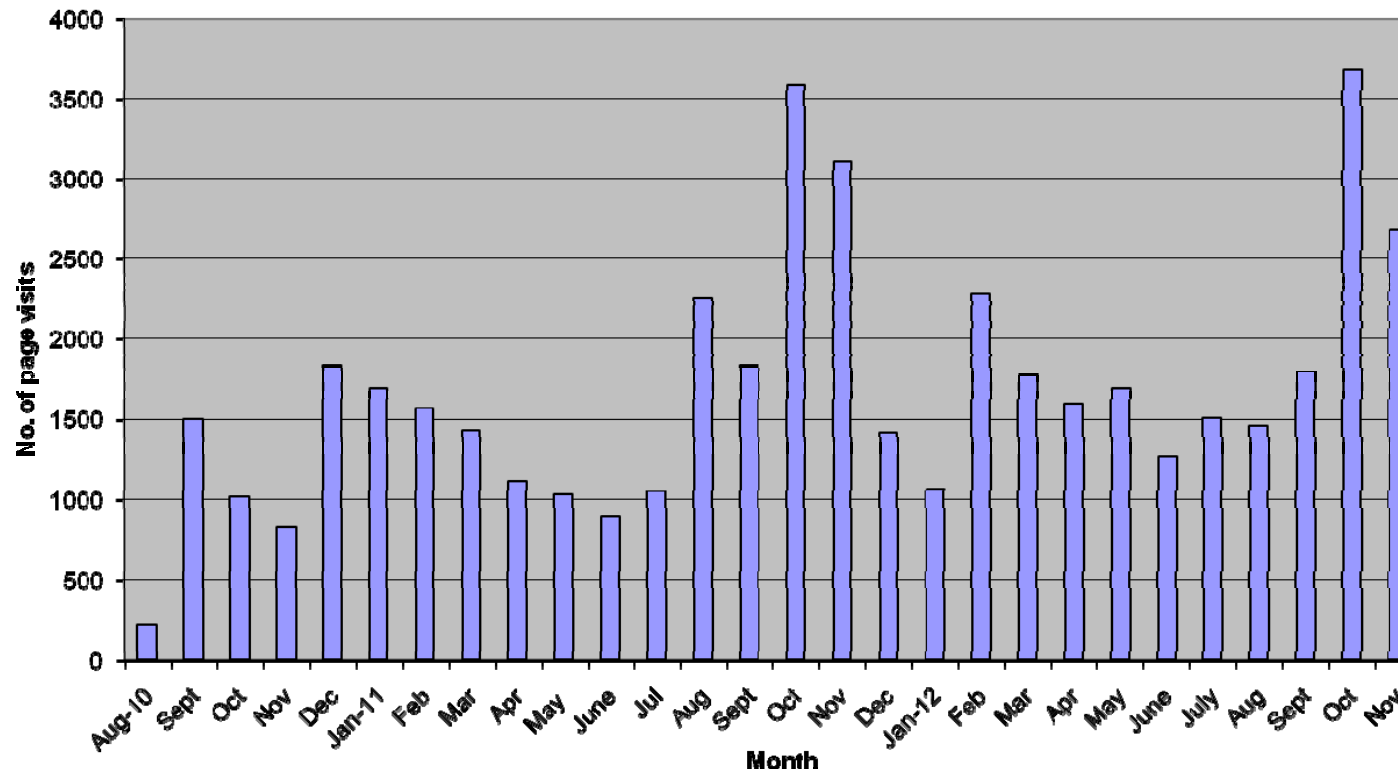
Our Living Coast website



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Number of Pages visited by month August 2010 to November 2012

Our Living Coast Website



The monthly average of page visits over the 24 months is 1,570. An analysis of the most popular pages reveals the following:

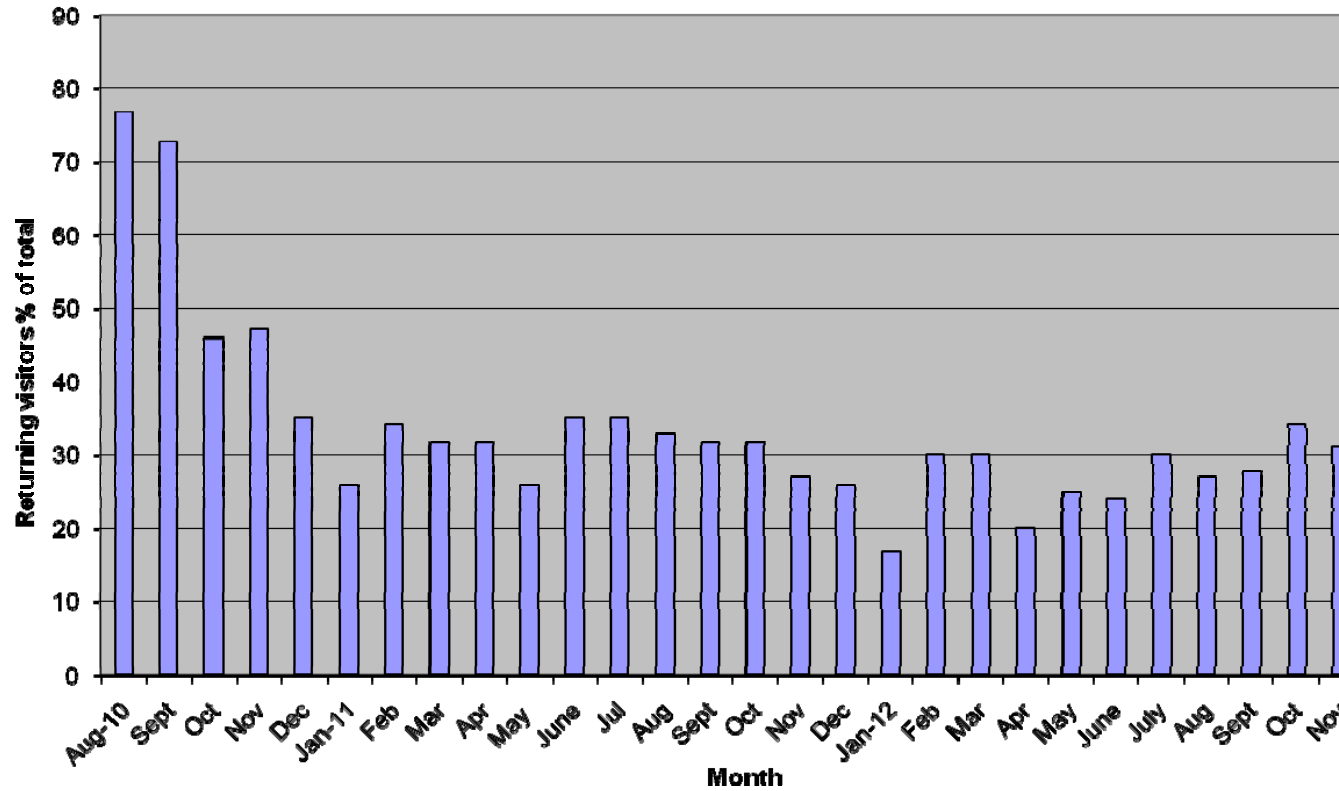
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Page title	Number of months ranked no. 1	Number of months ranked no. 2	Number of months in top 10
Home page	23	1	24
Category / Events		17	23
Sustainable Living Guide			22
State of the Environment Reporting			16
Sustainable Living Guide – avoid eating endangered fish		1	13
Household program			12
About OLC			12
What you can do			12
Sustainable Living Festival	1	2	7
Post an event			6
News - Win a solar prize		2	3
News - Ask your local fishmonger		1	1

Returning visitors as a percentage of the total

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Our Living Coast Website



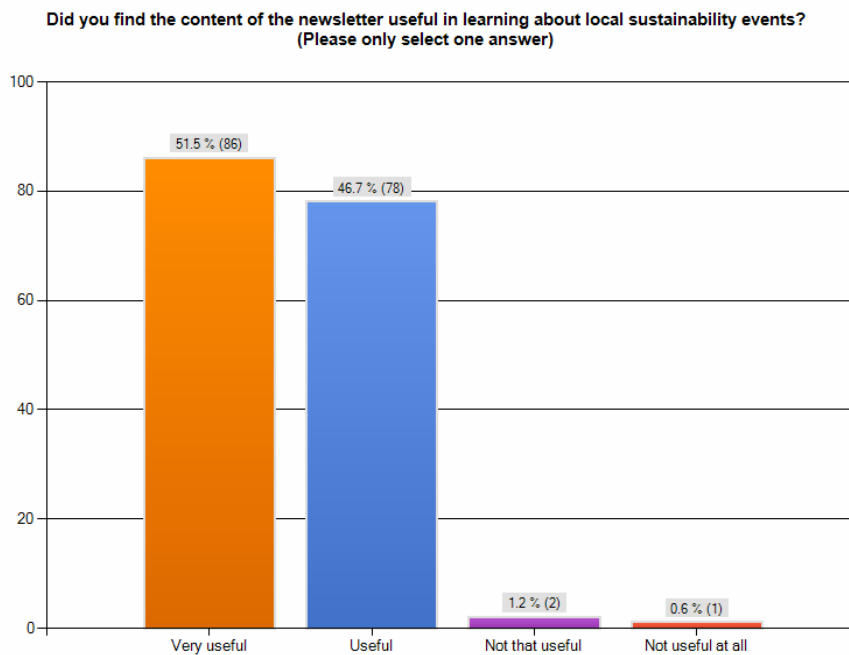
Finding 12. The OLC Newsletter is an effective and high profile part of the Hub that provides information and prompts behaviour change.

From its earliest beginnings in August 2010, OLC has produced a Newsletter each month, on-line and with email prompts to all those who have registered. There are currently 688 subscribers. The Newsletters are to be found on the OLC Website. Essentially the Newsletters have been intended to serve three functions: to increase community connection to sustainability; to promote OLC events to raise knowledge about sustainability; and to motivate behaviour change. The amount of content and the quality have improved over time.

There was a high level of satisfaction with the content of the Our Living Coast Newsletter, with over 97% of respondents being satisfied or very satisfied – see the following table, extracted from the OLC Survey.

Overall, how satisfied were you with the content of the Our Living Coast email newsletter?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very satisfied	52.4%	88
Satisfied	45.2%	76
A little bit unsatisfied	2.4%	4
Unsatisfied	0.0%	0

The Newsletter was useful for learning about local events. The graph below indicates that all but three of the respondents felt that the Newsletter was useful or very useful.

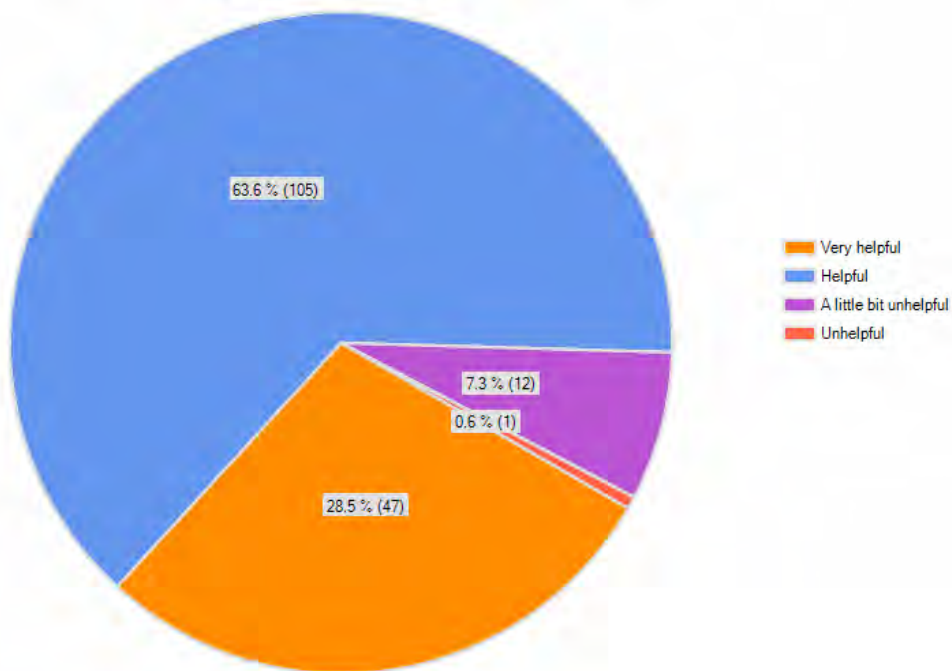


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Over 60% of people who received the Newsletter attended events that it promoted. Almost 8.5% were not sure if they had attended an event promoted in the Newsletter. This was somewhat surprising, but indicates that these people could not recall what motivated their attendance. See data table below.

The Newsletter was ‘helpful’ [63% of respondents] ‘very helpful’ [a further 28.5% of respondents] in making lifestyle choices.

Did you find the content of the Our Living Coast newsletter helpful when trying to learn about more sustainable lifestyle choices that you could make? (Please select one)



The Newsletter alone prompted behaviour change. Of the 164 people who completed the survey and had read the newsletter, 42.7% made lifestyle choices related to information that was provided in the Newsletter. This is a pleasing result, because it indicates a level of change that is much higher than that achieved from other social change/social justice publications. Achieving change via written publication is a challenging exercise and this finding is highly important. See detailed results below.

Did you make any changes to your lifestyle which you read about in the Our Living Coast Newsletter?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	42.7%	70
No	35.4%	58
Unsure	22.0%	36

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Note the high percentage of 'unsure' in this data table is interesting. It indicates that there is some doubt that the Newsletter prompted change by these people because they can't recall an example. The answer 'unsure' maybe interpreted as a 'yes' but given that many of the respondents also attended workshops it is likely that they cannot recall whether change was prompted by the workshop or the Newsletter.

Finding 13. The OLC has also supported a range of other successful events across the three Councils, all designed to raise community understanding of local sustainability issues.

The following events were supported and OLC staff also attended and provided education materials and information stalls etc.

- The Bellinger River Festival 2011 and 2012 – A Transition Bellinger initiative. Although no financial support was provided in 2012, the support in 2011 helped to deliver the inaugural Festival. Both Festivals have been highly successful. The Bellinger River Festival is a community event targeting various regional issues mainly: sustainability of environment and sustainability of its community health and social cohesion. To achieve this, a festival style entertainment and various engaging and interactive techniques are utilised.
- The Bellinger Renewable Energy Festival 2012 with Bob Brown as the keynote speaker
- The Whale Day Nambucca June 16 2012 8am to 2pm at Captain Cook Lookout - Parkes Street, Nambucca Heads. Celebrate National Whale Day in Nambucca Heads, come and join in the fun and learn about whales. Free activities.
- The Nambucca Stormwater Turtle Family Fun Day. Nov 26 2011, 10am-2pm at Bellwood Park, Nambucca Heads.

Although there were insufficient resources available to formally evaluate these events, anecdotal evidence indicate their value to the project.

It should be noted that through the course of its delivery, a substantial range of media coverage was generated by Our Living Coast. This supported the delivery of the project's Outcomes. Space does not allow for the reproduction of the media that was generated by Our Living Coast. This is available separately attached to the Project Final Report. From an evaluation perspective, it is sufficient to say that unpaid media was generated in newspapers and local radio. This enabled promotion of Workshops and other events, raised issues related to sustainable living and enhanced information available to the community about the work of Our Living Coast.

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On Ground Works

The following were the desired Outcomes for the On Ground Works component of the program, established at the beginning of the project. Essentially none of these Outcomes could be achieved if the funded On Ground Projects had not been completed. This Section of the report focuses on providing data about these projects and their Outcomes.

On Ground Works		
Ultimate	Completion of erosion control, revegetation and weed removal works in coastal areas. Increased urban biodiversity through activities under the Flying Fox project.	OGW1. Has all planned erosion control, re-vegetation and weed removal works been completed? OGW 2. Is there evidence of increased biodiversity as a result of the project?
Intermediate	Increased community awareness of the region’s coastal biodiversity values through improved access. Increased community awareness of biodiversity through improved access via the Coastal Walk.	OGW 3. What evidence exists of increased community awareness of the region’s coastal biodiversity values?
Immediate	Improved community access to information about coastal biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage values.	OGW4. What evidence exists of improved community access to information about coastal biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage values?

Finding 14. Despite commencing later than anticipated the On Ground Projects funded under the Our Living Coast were largely completed with significant impact.


The information below provides evaluative data about On Ground projects in each LGA to provide evidence of this finding. Four Sections are included – one on the Flying Fox Project that was held across each Council in a collaborative fashion, and one each relating to the On Ground work in each jurisdiction.

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On Ground works – the Flying Fox Project

Location	Brief Description	Evaluation
 <p>Nambucca – Bowraville regeneration area with Mayor and film crew</p> <p><i>Because of Our Living Coast we’ve got a Bushcare group in Nambucca for the first time, and it’s great.</i></p>	<p>Before the OLC project, Council was dealing with a large flying fox maternity camp at Grassy Park in Bowraville. The OLC helped to build the residential buffer zone after previous vegetation removal and to compile a flying fox plan of management and help revegetate the area.</p>	<p>See Part B. of the Supplementary Report for more data. Results in Bowraville have been staggering. There is significant community ownership and engagement with the project and the establishment of a local bushcare group which is functioning very effectively. The following quote from a community member is telling: <i>The Flying Fox project has been the most political but yet the most valuable with a local bushcare group starting up and continuing the work done by the OLC.</i></p> <p>This project was one of the highlights of the whole Our Living Coast experience.</p>
 <p>Aboriginal community consultation</p>	<p>Create an additional vegetation layer to maintain and enhance a cool, humid and sheltered environment for the camp.</p> <p>Revegetate areas to promote biodiversity across the site and reduce the threat of weed incursion.</p> <p>Create a buffer edge with indigenous species to provide for visual enhancement and an effective non-roosting screen.</p> <p>Revegetation of Riparian areas to Promote Bank</p>	<p>Planting of canopy, midstorey and understorey species has occurred post weed removal. The objective of the plantings is to recreate the onsite plant communities strata, which is currently absent due to weed incursion.</p> <p>Planting is considered complete, however the structure will take 5-10yrs to develop.</p> <p>Extensive weed removal has occurred with >90% reduction in weed biomass within the interior of the camp. Planting of 2,200 native plants has occurred as part of this project.</p>

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	<p>stability around the lake, to address camp structure and to promote natural regeneration.</p> <p>Follow up Weed Control Works.</p> <p>Development of Regional Flying Fox Management Plan.</p> <p>Installation of regional interpretive and educational signage.</p>	<p>Two programs of weed control have been delivered as part of this project. With a 90% weed biomass reduction in the project area of 5,000msq. Coffs Harbour City Council via its Environmental Levy Program has committed funds for ongoing weed control and follow up works. Reduction in weed biomass has increased natural regeneration over the entire restoration area.</p>
<p>Bellingen The Flying Fox Project focused on Bellingen Island in the Bellinger River. An iconic local site.</p> 	<p>The project involved: Development of the Plan of Management (PoM) Bellingen Island Integrated Reserve. It was completed and put on public exhibition for comment in August 2012. A public hearing for the Categorisation of Land under the NSW Local Government Act was held 22nd November. The final PoM was put to Council for adoption and implementation in December 2012.</p> <p>Bush regeneration throughout Bellingen Island has significantly reduced the threat of weeds including madeira vine; balloon vine; and trad weed. This provides protection of the remnant bushland and restoration of native seedlings to provide further habitat for on-site flying foxes.</p> <p>Monthly follow up weed control works have been</p>	<p>See Part B. of the Supplementary Report for more data.</p> <p>Approved Plan of Management to provide direction for the future management of Bellingen Island Reserve for the next 10 years based on current social and environmental values, and legislative responsibilities.</p> <p>1,400 local native plants were successfully established on the disturbed river bank and western area of Bellingen Island.</p> <p>This project and the erosion control activity see below, have restored Bellingen island and stabilized water flow, sedimentation and flora in a highly threatened location. This effort has been recognised as highly important by the local community.</p>



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	<p>carried out on Bellingen Island and the surrounding area, for consolidation of the main project works. Relationships with local Landcare groups working on the sites have been established and strengthened. These groups will continue with on-going follow-up weed control and restorative works.</p>	
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Bush regeneration

On Ground Works – Coffs Harbour. Solitary Islands Walk

A vision to a reality!


Location	Brief Description	Evaluation
  <p>Walk launch by Mayor of Coffs Harbour City Council</p>	<p>The Solitary Islands Coastal Walk is complete - a collaborative project between Coffs Harbour City Council, Coffs Coast Regional Park Trust and NSW National Parks and Wildlife. The walk was officially launched on 30 November 2012.</p> <p>Stretching from Sawtell to Red Rock you may choose to do it in one expedition or tackle parts at a time.</p> <p>The walk is a world class experience with sweeping ocean views, headlands and forested areas that provide habitat for a range of threatened species and ecological communities, remote beaches and both indigenous and non-indigenous cultural experiences. Maps are available from information</p>	<p>See Part B. of the Supplementary Report for more data. The evaluation highlights are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of a 67km walking route where OLC provide the catalyst and funding for completion of the finals section of the walk. • OLC funding [\$286,000] was instrumental in drawing additional support for the final stage of the project of over \$1.4 million, that enabled the project to be completed; for costing data see Supplementary Report. • OLC funding enabled the completion of 250 interpretive signs on the walk. Signs vary from large maps [6] to smaller signs pointing to ecology, and cultural heritage. • Excellent example of a partnership between Council, State Government agencies, especially National Parks and Wildlife Service and local

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	<p>centres in Coffs Harbour region.</p>	<p>community, especially the indigenous community.</p>
<p>Track improvements completed - to avoid soil compaction and erosion</p>	<p>A significant tourist and social sustainability gain for the region. Connection between small Coastal communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of threatened environments by managing human impact. • Clever design of the walk and the regeneration minimises the need for long term maintenance, although this remains an issue. • Employment of personnel to work on the project mandated engagement from the indigenous community.
		
<p>Part of the walk and signage</p>		

On Ground Works Bellingen


For full report on all of the Bellingen Shire On Ground works see Part B. of the Supplementary Report

Location	Brief Description	Evaluation
<p>Bellinger Riverbank erosion rehabilitation</p>  <p>Engineered Log Jams under construction (Aug 2011)</p>	<p>On this iconic site:</p> <p>Implement 200 m of best practice alluvial bank stabilisation on Bellingen Island.</p> <p>Plant a 200m vegetated riparian zone.</p> <p>Hold a field based event.</p>	<p>In this project:</p> <p>160m best practice alluvial bank stabilisation including rock/log deflector jams & pin groynes was completed. Works were slightly over budget and therefore fell a little short of the 200m distance originally intended.</p> <p>200m riparian zone planted adjacent to bank stabilisation structure was undertaken. Approx. ¼ of the plants were buried with sand in the January 2012 floods however the remaining plants</p>

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		<p>continue to be maintained by Bellinghen Urban Landcare. Replanting has occurred Two guided canoe tours featuring river processes and projects in the upper estuary from Bellinghen Island to Fernmount including this riverbank stabilisation site were held. 45 local landholders attended the first tour & 40 attended the second. [see below] This site also featured in a tour at the 2012 Bellinghen River Festival & is a regular site for Bellinghen Urban Landcare</p>	
<p>Bank stabilisation</p>	<p>Mylestom Coastal Biodiversity Enhancement</p>	<p>This project involved the completion of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out primary weed control over 10 hectares. • Carry out secondary and other follow up works over 36 hectares. • Engage householders adjacent to the dunes in a behaviour change program. • Conduct community planting event. 	<p>In this project: Primary weed control was completed across eight (8) hectares. The reduced area covered is due to finding unexpected dense infestations of Madeira Vine on the dunal system. This required extensive work hours for removal/control. Primary weed control reduced impact of Bitou Bush; Lantana; Glory Lily; Madeira Vine; Senna and Coral Trees. Secondary weed control works across the project site and adjacent area for consolidation of the project significantly reduced the impact of Bitou Bush; Lantana; Glory Lily; Madeira Vine; Senna and Coral Trees on the dunal system. Mylestom residents attended the Healthy Homes workshop series, including workshop on Garden Escapees and Weed identification. [See Community Engagement Section] identification session and tree</p>
	<p>Mylestom Pre-School Herb Garden</p>		<p>Mylestom Healthy Homes</p>

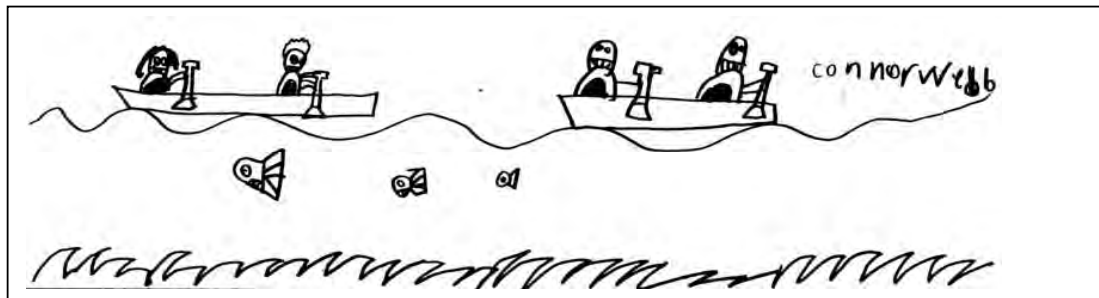
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		planting day for Mylestom residents held Wednesday 21 st November 2012
<p>Our Living River – Estuary Action Project</p>  <p>Vine weeds removed (May 2012)</p>	<p>This project was designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement seven Site Action Plans with landholders. • Rehabilitate and restore 3.2 km stretch of Bellinger River riverbank. (76 hectares) • Instigate maintenance agreements for works. • Community and golf club participation in the project. • Engage up to 500 community members in a Bellinger River Festival. • Planting of 500 riparian plants. • Increase community appreciation of the Bellinger River. • Other - Church Street and Jarrett Park river embankment beautification project. 	<p>In this project: Site Action Plans were implemented on 7 properties (3 Council & 4 private).</p> <p>Weed control, revegetation, and rock revetment undertaken along 2km of Bellinger River bank (30ha). A large amount of the 76ha originally intended were part of the Golf Course project which were transferred to another funding opportunity through Landcare.</p> <p>Maintenance agreements are in place for 5 of the 7 sites. The 2 remaining sites are Council sites and will be a priority for any future funding opportunities.</p> <p>Approx. 2,000 people attended the Bellinger River Festival 2011. Approx. 500 people participated in workshops, activities and guided tours. 105 local businesses/ organisations and 311 individual people were involved in the running of the event.</p> <p>400 trees and Lomandra were planted by 14 community members in the lead up to the Festival.</p> <p>25 people planted 250 trees and 200 Lomandra during the festival. Most of these plants washed away in the January 2012 floods however 280 replacement trees were planted in May 2012.</p>

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		<p>The community's response to the River Festival 2011 was overwhelmingly positive. In response to this, the festival was repeated in 2012 and the community continue to praise the event as an enjoyable and effective way to focus on the river and appreciate its beauty, values and management.</p> <p>The old riverbank between Church Street and Jarrett Park in Bellingen was upgraded via the planting of 510 native Australian plants in October/November 2012.</p>
<p>Planting</p>		

I really liked the canoe trip and the bush tucker (Evaluator to young Connor) – Will you draw it for me? What happened? Yes, I'll draw it. We went on this trip into the mangroves and saw lots of stuff Aboriginal people eat ... we can eat it too.



Note the Regensis project was started but could not be complete - see Part B. of the supplementary Report on why the project could not proceed.

It's sometimes easier to get funding rather than doing- Our Living Coast was great because it was a 'doing' project.

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On Ground Works Nambucca


Nambucca Shire Council as part of the Our Living Coast on ground works project successfully delivered the following two projects.

Location	Brief Description	Evaluation
<p>Wellington Rock Project</p>  <p>Opening of the Nyambaga walking trail</p>  <p>Workshop for Caravan residents</p>	<p>The Wellington Rock area at Nambucca Heads is a draw card for many people, with its stunning sweeping views of the Nambucca estuary, adjacent national parks and nearby mountains. It is also an area of cultural importance to both indigenous and non-indigenous people.</p> <p>Our Living Coast carried out works to remove inappropriate tracks across the dune system and provide track upgrades in more appropriate locations. Also weed removal, dune plantings, fencing, rubbish removal and a community education program for caravan park residents adjacent to the dunes were a part of this project.</p> <p>The Nyambaga walking trail has been upgraded. It encompasses the intrinsic bio-cultural value of the area from the fauna and flora found there.</p>	<p>For full report see Part B. of the Supplementary Report</p> <p>Before the OLC project, Council was dealing with a run down, weed choked, degraded area of crown land. The access way had been restricted to less than 30cm after a land slump. People were camping in the dunes and several out of control fires have damaged much of the native vegetation in the area.</p> <p>This area was important to the local Baga Baga clan as their fishing camp before the river training wall was built.</p> <p>The Nyambaga walking trail encompasses the intrinsic bio-cultural value of the area from the fauna and flora found there to the Aboriginal and European heritage. The project has made the area more accessible to the public and helped protect tracts of EEC and extensive dunal system from threats.</p> <p>Aboriginal culture has been highlighted through this area 18 interpretive signs have been constructed.</p> <p>By implementing projects in line with already existing frameworks – e.g. Estuary plans, coastal zone management plans, existing plans of management for various natural resource areas in the Shire, as a</p>

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		<p>way of obtaining project approval more quickly and using existing knowledge bases and plans.</p>
<p>Indigenous signage</p>		
<p>Urban Creek Restoration</p>		
	<p>Nambucca River near Bellwood Park is the only safe swimming spot and was at risk of stormwater runoff from Freshwater Creek. The OLC project enabled Gross Pollutant traps to be installed at two creeks, Beer and Freshwater, rock revetment to stabilise the river banks and protect the land and urban parkland, [Bellwood and Anzac Parks] and finally to clear large infestations of exotic weeds from the creeks and to enable a proper flow regime.</p>	<p>For full report see Part B. of the Supplementary Report. The community has a new, great looking park to swim and relax in that is now safe from erosion.</p> <p>There is a nice beach area and less pollutants entering the Nambucca River and making it a cleaner place.</p>
<p>Erosion Control</p>	<p>Stormwater Turtle is a \$100,000 rehabilitation project, funded by the Our Living Coast Project, overseen by Nambucca Shire Council, for two urban creeks in Nambucca Heads. The rehabilitation of Beer and Freshwater Creeks and surrounds, aims to improve the quality of the stormwater entering the Nambucca River.</p>	<p>In partnership with the Gumma IPA [GIPA] , Southern Cross University[SCU] an annual river clean up has been put in place and the gross pollutant trap will be emptied by the GIPA and data sent to SCU for analysis.</p>
	<p>As urban areas increase, so does the potential for stormwater pollution reaching the clear turquoise waters of</p>	<p>1,000 drain stencils are also a legacy of the project.</p>
<p>Community education</p>		

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	<p>the Nambucca River. Stormwater pollution in some areas of the river presents a health hazard to swimmers and affects the recreational fishing. It also affects commercial fishing and the aquaculture that the Nambucca River is famous for.</p>	
<p>Drain stencilling</p>	<p>Through a series of on ground works [above]. Nambucca Shire Council will enhance the areas and improve the quality of the stormwater entering the river.</p>	
	<p>An education program for the community has been developed to ensure stormwater pollution stops at the source and is also a part of the program.</p>	

Because of Our Living Coast we've got a Bushcare group in Nambucca for the first time, and it's great.

Finding 15. Bush regeneration and biodiversity improvement were important gains through all On Ground projects.

The following activities have resulted in improved biodiversity:

- Substantial bush and dune regeneration across the Solitary Islands Walk path
- Substantial bush regeneration on Bellingen Island and along the banks of the Bellingen River.
- Substantial bush and dune regeneration along the Nyambaga walking trail.
- Substantial bush regeneration completed in the Bellingen Our Living River – Estuary Action Project.
- Substantial bush and dune regeneration through the Mylestom Coastal Biodiversity Enhancement project.
- A number of the community sustainability projects, see Community Engagement Section, also resulted in biodiversity improvements.

See Schedule C in final Report on the Our Living Coast Project.

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Finding 16. There was evidence of increases in community awareness of biodiversity [and access to education material] as a result of the OLC project.

At the Focus Group, held at the end of the project [see Supplementary Report Part C] there was evidence provided about biodiversity improvement:

- *The information was good because it wasn't just about land and gardens. I've lived in the bush, but now I'm a flat dweller and I even learned about what I can do here.*
- *In Nambucca they're doing weed control, and also having someone looking at beach access.*
- *A lot of weed control is happening on my doorstep. It faces onto a caravan park. There's no (green?) waste disposal, hence a lot of green waste and weeds dumping. Nambucca Council doesn't have a tree preservation order. Trees are getting cut down and half of the regeneration area is being cut. We need a tree preservation order and green waste disposal in caravan parks.*
- *Changes in our own house, seeing impact on bird life and insects. It's happening in other houses in our street too. There's huge potential for raising awareness about all these things.*
- *Before we had the weed workshop we were going to have an environmental market but we put it off. Quite a lot of people came along to the workshop and then we had the market and lots of people came.*
- *The walk the Council has funded at Shelley Beach. People will have access to see the biodiversity.*

At the Nambucca On Ground Projects the following community activities were delivered:

Education program for residents	A fun day was held to help residents of each of the catchments understand where pollutants go when it rains 100 people attended. Pamphlets were dropped in each letterbox of every house in each sub-catchment. An annual 'Clean up the river day' has been inaugurated and so far has been a success.
Education for small business	Business uptake has been slow – businesses that have shown interest have now changed their ways of disposing of oils – businesses drains were stencilled to remind them that this drains to the Nambucca River.
Drain stenciling	Over 1,000 drains (that lead to the Nambucca River) have been stencilled by community members, schools and Council staff.
Install interpretive signage	18 interpretative signs have been installed along the trail at various areas to describe the bio-culture of the area – from plants and animals to habitats (both terrestrial and marine) to cultural heritage. (both Aboriginal and European)
Education program for caravan park residents	A five workshop series was presented at the Caravan park for residents. The incidence of dumping in the park boundaries has been drastically reduced. Worm farms and compost bins for communal use have been installed. A dog doo bag dispenser has been installed for caravan park users. The caravan park has now received its gold gumnut award.

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Public Field Day and/or community workshops	A dunecare 'Come and try day' was held earlier in the year and several people have signed up and been working steadily in the park. The grand opening weekend showcased the trail, from guided tours by Gumbaynggirr custodians showing the areas richness as a food resource to people just coming and looking at what is on offer. 800 people visited the trail in three days.
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At Coffs Harbour there is considerably increased community education material and signage about biodiversity through the Solitary Islands Walk project. Also the work of the Coastal Ambassadors program [see above] has enhanced community access to information about biodiversity.

In Bellingen there has been substantial community involvement and education as reported above, including the canoe tours, the Bellinger River Festival etc.

Transport

The following were the desired Outcomes for the Transport component of the program.

Transport		
Ultimate	Increased use of more environmentally friendly modes of transport. Evidence of increased use of cycling as a mode of transport.	T1. Is there evidence of increased use of environmentally friendly transport options in the community – including cycling?
Intermediate	Increased awareness across the region of cycling as a mode of transport. Increased use of car pooling among Council staff and in the community.	T2. Are people across the three Alliance Councils more aware of cycling as a mode of transport? T3. Is there evidence of increased car pooling by Council staff and/or in the community?
Immediate	Councils [Bellingen and Coffs Harbour] purchases bikes for use by employees for work related trips – Cycling Racks also made available [Nambucca and Bellingen]. Cycling and walking route maps available at each Alliance Council.	T4. Is there evidence of purchase of bikes for Coffs Harbour and Bellingen staff, the construction of racks in Nambucca and Bellingen Shires and availability of cycling and walking maps in each alliance Council?

Evaluator’s note

At the inception of the OLC project, the focus was on cycling as an alternate form of transport, hence the development of the six outcomes, above. The findings reflect this but uptake may not have been as extensive as was envisaged at the start of the project.

Finding 17. The Coffs, Bellingen and Nambucca communities are very focused on private motor vehicle use as a means of transport. Changing this is a long term challenge, partly related to population density. All Our Living Coast infrastructure and education outcomes have been achieved.

There is community support for changing transport habits and patterns and getting people to walk more. The following quotes from the community focus group summarise the attitudes of many in the community:

- *Regarding the walking track: When you saw people working on the track – it was great - there were a lot of indigenous people involved. It would be good to do that everywhere. You see people every morning out walking in Nambucca. Everybody could work together on the track. We, as a community, would grow so much more rich.*
- *Recreational activity – Cycle Track - Council could put money into making it for transport to work. Making things more accessible to people.*

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There needs to be recognition that more is needed to change people's transport and recreational habits and that the community has a stake here.

It is noted that three Ride to Work Days were held by each Council, supported by OLC and targeting Council staff. These were not evaluated because they were not a part of the original OLC Program Plan. This is unfortunate as anecdotal feedback says that they were successful.

Bikes have been purchased for use by Coffs Harbour City Council staff [see below]; bike racks have been installed in Nambucca and Bellingen and walking and cycling maps have been produced and are widely distributed.

Finding 18. Car pooling has increased across the community and by Council staff at a reasonable level.

The Our Living Coast project has supported the Carpool Mid North Coast [Website www.carpoolmnc.org] which covers the region from Coffs Harbour Local Government Area, south to the Great Lakes LGA. A full report on this initiative is found in Part G of the Supplementary Report.

In summary the following evaluative evidence is noted:

- Currently Carpool MNC has 168 registered members. Collectively with the Northern Rivers site, we have 1,198 registered members. Considering that they have been operating for three consecutive years; it is expected that numbers will increase similarly with ongoing regular promotion.
- Carpool signs that are brand recognisable have been installed across the communities of the MNC. Southern Cross University's Coffs Campus has quite a number of signs installed. As well, MNCLHD have had a solid push for the website and similarly have a bulk number of signage installed at their health centres.
- Several months ago, NRCP issued a Survey to all registrants of both sister sites. The results were collated and showed some disappointing trends that people were not communicating fully and matches were not easily being made. In the Coffs project, efforts have been made to implement better communication between users, which include: previous contact data to be shown i.e.: deemed suitable/unsuitable by the user previously; monthly generated emails to inform of news and events; new Events Page (for Event Organisers to advertise and cross reference our site and their event).
- The carpool website is a member of the Coffs Connect website and the aim is to encourage community members to carpool. The end result would be to cut down on greenhouse gas emissions, less vehicle congestion on our roads, easier CBD etc. parking; as well as strengthening the bonds between like-minded community members. It may encourage people to step outside the box and make new friends; and has been referred to previously as being like a dating website for transport matches. Sustainability does not come from just one aspect, but from the many trying to achieve similar goals.

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- It can be difficult to encourage people to step outside the box and experience a new way of doing and thinking. Most people love the idea of the carpool, but jumping in can be a huge step. The difficulty comes when trying to get them to take the plunge and join up and then again to actually contact a stranger.

Finding 19. Coffs Harbour City Council has implemented a Bike Program for Council Staff and bikes are being used for work related travel.

This program has been well supported by Council and the following provides a summary of the program and its uptake. A survey has been undertaken about use and the full results are found at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=0dPqh0VtSYLUy_2fXmSsoiM313uvqURCWBXHRonTXIBnU_3d

- Eight bikes were purchased in November 2011 following an extensive research process, which looked at similar programs run by Ballina Council, Brisbane City Council and Gold Coast Council.
- Bikes were low maintenance and two are electric. All were purchased locally.
- Prior to involvement in the program staff had to attend an induction program delivered by the Program Coordinator, the Road Safety Officer. Sixty nine people have completed this induction. The induction focuses on safety issues primarily and participants are assessed for competence.
- This project has involved an extensive learning process:
 - Concerns about safety expressed by a number of people
 - Minimising bike maintenance is an issue.
 - How is bike use integrated with fleet management? Currently it isn't and there is no induction program for car use, which is considered 'safe.'
 - Is promotion of bike use related to health benefits or environmental benefits or common sense? How to sell the program is an ongoing issue?
- There has been some media interest in the project but in the early stages the message that the media pushed was Council wasting resources. Later media has been more positive about environmental and health 'savings.'
- The following data is of interest, extracted from the survey.

Use of Bikes

Daily	8.7%
A few times a week	4.3%
Weekly	4.3%
A few times a month	8.7%
Monthly	21.7%
Less than once a month	21.7%
Once only	13%
Completed induction but never used bike	13%

In reading this data it should be noted that:

- 36.4% rarely leave the building during working hours.

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- 36.4% said when they do leave the building for work they 'travel too far.'
- Bikes can be used for recreational riding if they are not booked for work use.
- Most use of the bikes was for Council business [56.5%]. Only 8.7% was for recreational use alone.
- Most trips were of 5-10km [44.4%].
- The Induction process was positively evaluated by the vast majority of respondents.

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Business Engagement

The following were the desired Outcomes for the Business Engagement component of the program.

Business Engagement Program		
Ultimate	Businesses in Bellingin engaged in the program make tangible changes in resource use as a result of the program.	B1. What resource reduction evidence exists among Bellingin businesses engaged in the program?
Intermediate	Businesses in Bellingin sign-up and become engaged in the program.	B2. How many businesses are signed up and engaged in the program?
Immediate	Signing up to the project is seen as giving businesses a competitive advantage on a town wide basis.	B3. What evidence exists about the positive features of involvement in the program?

Finding 20. There is evidence of only limited engagement and impact of the OLC business project and no evidence of resource reduction as a result of the project.

Part H of the Supplementary Report contains short paper that examines the results of the Our Living Coast small business projects. Essentially it indicates that while some engagement occurred, the desired Outcomes were only partially met. The following information summarises the results of this very small and somewhat ambitious project.

In total 61 small business within the Shire of Bellingin were approached asking whether they would like to be involved. Of these:

- 31 businesses expressed initial interest
- 15 businesses were signed up to support the plastic bag free Bellingin campaign
- 9 businesses had an energy audit conducted
- 2 businesses successfully applied for funding from Our Living Coast for amounts up to \$300 for energy efficiency measures
- 3 businesses successfully applied to the State Government SBEEP project for amounts up to \$5,000.

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The results for this project were considered disappointing to the OLC project team. Factors which contributed to the results include:

- project officer resigning the position prior to completion
- an inability [due to staffing constraints]to provide individualised service and the necessary “ hand holding “ due to resources
- failure to adequately make the case that it is good for business
- Local floods and the global economic downturn occupied business owners main concerns
- Lack of effective promotion by the local small business association.

An alternative project – the Bellingham Composting / Worm Farm Initiative ultimately could not proceed due to planning considerations, economic viability, timing and value for money.

A literature review revealed a lot of information is available regarding the difficulties faced when attempting to engage small business in sustainability. Three of these publications were discussed and cited which highlighted that whilst businesses are responsible for 70% of pollution they do not perceive the environment as core business, thus making it difficult to sign up to voluntary environmental programs like Our Living Coast.

Evaluator’s note: Specific skills and experience are required for working effectively with small business and the effort is often significantly resource intensive. Insufficient officer time was able to be allocated to this project to achieve better results.

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6. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. A copy of this report is provided to all General Managers in each of the three participating Councils and tabled at meetings of each Council.
2. The three Councils continue to work together to ensure that the gains and momentum of Our Living Coast are not lost. Specifically this should involve:
 - Continued provision of the website and newsletter.
 - Delivery of more Healthy Homes workshops across the three Council areas.
 - The continuation of annual support for a community sustainability projects program across the three Council areas.
 - Support of the fledgling community groups set up through Our Living Coast to flourish and deliver significant sustainability benefits to the area. As one participant said at the Celebration event: *We need to move beyond funded projects and workshops so that we all work together to develop our communities and make them more sustainable in every way.*
 - Continued support for the 'S' Team in Coffs and the BATS Team in Bellingen.
3. In delivering more Our Living Coast type projects Councils need to: *bring in the 'differently minded.'* *What's happened so far is great, but it is only a step on the journey* [program participant]. Targeting young people is especially important for the future.
4. The three Councils extend their activity to support sustainability by:
 - Engagement with Sustainability Advantage [OEI] re establishing a viable and effective small business project on the Coffs Coast.
 - Continuing ongoing meetings of the OLC project Steering Committee to determine further opportunities, identify funding streams etc. Organisation of these meetings and the actions that ensue should be rotated between Councils.
 - Supporting Nambucca Shire Council in its sustainability activity as appropriate, so that a functioning 'S' Team is established and functions effectively.
 - In particular, seeking funding for extension of On Ground Works in Bellingen and Nambucca. There is much more to be done.
5. In future, where significant On Ground infrastructure projects are funded, each should be complemented by extended community education/communication components so that more can be made of the process and the results. There was evidence of this occurring in the Our

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Living Coast project but more could have been done in this regard according to many of the key informants.

6. The Lifestyle data collected as a part of the Healthy Homes workshop aspect of this project is a highly valuable, if a somewhat under-utilised set of local information. In this regard it is recommended that:
 - Attention is drawn to the lifestyle data obtained by Our Living Coast within each of the three Councils and their fledgling [and any existing] community groups.
 - The questionnaire used to collect lifestyle data is promoted for use in other projects and Councils.
 - In the future, if such data is to be collected that it is used more directly to frame the content of the Workshop program. There was a disconnect between the delivery of Healthy Homes and the availability of such a rich stream of lifestyle information. While bringing them together poses some logistical difficulties, Workshop content would be better focused if this could occur.

7. The three Councils liaise with NSW Health and NSW Roads and Maritime to develop a more comprehensive project to reduce car use and enhance recreational and work related cycling. This project should:
 - Ensure that car pooling continues to be supported.
 - Assist Coffs Harbour City Council to extend the use of Council's bikes.
 - Develop and cost a plan for achieving health and recreational outcomes, cost efficiently.
 - Implement the most beneficial of the projects in the plan.
 - Strongly promote walking – especially the use of Solitary Islands track and other local walking tracks. This project would focus primarily on recreational walking but it could also have a walk to work focus
 - Continue to hold local, annual Ride to work days at each Council
 - Extend Ride to Work Days as community events annually.

8. The NSW Environmental Trust notes this comprehensive report about a successful and far-reaching project.



Bellingen Shire
COUNCIL



**Connecting People,
Places and
Sustainability**

**Our Living Coast
Sustainability Project**

**Supplementary
Report to the
Evaluation**



Produced for Our Living Coast
by Grahame Collier



Part A Introduction Purpose and Table of Contents

This is a document of record rather than a report.

This is the support document to *Connecting People, Places and Sustainability: Our Living Coast Sustainability Project Evaluation Report*. It contains all raw data that is referred to in the Final Evaluation Report of the Our Living Coast Project and hence is an important source document for it.

It should be noted that some individual workshop evaluations reports have not been included in this document. That is because at 279 pages, it is just too large and something had to be left out. These have been provided electronically to Our Living Coast and can be accessed from the project records or from the archives of the Evaluator, as required.

It is not intended that any reader will work through this document from the first page to the last. Rather it is intended that the source material is available for reference as required. Specific referencing to this document is made in the *Connecting People, Places and Sustainability: Our Living Coast Sustainability Project Evaluation Report*.

The layout of this Supplementary Report is similar to that of the Final Evaluation Report in that all data is located in identified Sections so that it can be easily referenced. Where there is no additional data, there is no referral to it.

Art is kept to a minimum in this document because it is doubtful that it will be published as it is not a stand-alone document.

Grahame Collier

January 2013

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Phew ! Enormous amount of work from your end. [email from Our Living Coast Project Manager, to the Evaluator upon seeing the draft reports].

Part B. On Ground Projects Supplementary Data

The following Section contains supplementary data from each of the Councils about the On Ground activities of the project.

A. Bellingen Shire Projects

1. Flying Fox Projects

Actions	Fully / Partially/ not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Produce a Bellingen Island Management Plan	Fully	The DRAFT Plan of Management (PoM) Bellingen Island Integrated Reserve was completed and put on public exhibition for comment in August 2012. A public hearing for the Categorisation of Land under the NSW Local Government Act was held 22 nd November. The final PoM will be put to Council for adoption and implementation in December 2012.
Carry out bush regeneration in the Bellingen Island remnant through control of vine, mid-story and groundcover weeds	Fully	Bush regeneration throughout Bellingen Island has significantly reduced the threat of weeds including madeira vine; balloon vine; and trad. Providing protection of the EEC remnant and restoration of native seedling to provide further habitat for on site flying foxes.
Carry out planting of highly disturbed areas on Bellingen Island	Fully	1400 local native plants were successfully established on the disturbed river bank and western area of Bellingen Island.
Carry out regular and continuous follow up weeds control works	Fully	Monthly follow up weed control works have been carried out on Bellingen Island and the surrounding area for consolidation of the main project works. Relationships with local Landcare groups working on the sites have been established and strengthened. These groups will continue with on-going follow-up weed control and restorative works.

2. Bellinger Riverbank erosion rehabilitation

Actions	Fully / Partially/ not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Implement 200 m of best practice alluvial bank stabilisation	Partially	160m best practice alluvial bank stabilisation including rock/log deflector jams & pin groynes. Works were slightly over budget & therefore fell short of the 200m distance originally intended.
Plant a 200 m vegetated riparian zone	Fully	200m riparian zone planted adjacent to bank stabilisation structure. Approx. ¼ of the plants were buried with sand in the January 2012 floods however the remaining plants continue to be maintained by Bellinger Urban Landcare.
Hold a field based event	Fully	2 guided canoe tours featuring river processes and projects in the upper estuary from Bellinger Island to Fernmount including this riverbank stabilisation site. 45 local landholders attended the first tour & 40 attended the second. This site also featured in a tour at the 2012 Bellinger River Festival & is a regular site for Bellinger Urban Landcare.

3. Mylestom Coastal Biodiversity Enhancement

Actions	Fully / Partially/ not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Carry out primary weed control over 10 Ha	Partially	Primary weed control was completed across eight (8) hectares. The reduced area covered is due to finding unexpected dense infestations of Madeira Vine on the dunal system. This required extensive work hours for removal/control. Primary weed control reduced impact of Bitou Bush; Lantana; Glory Lily; Madeira Vine; Senna and Coral Trees.
Carry out secondary and other follow up works over 36 Ha	Fully	Secondary weed control works across the project site and adjacent area for consolidation of the project significantly reduced the impact of Bitou Bush; Lantana; Glory Lily; Madeira Vine; Senna and Coral Trees on the dunal system.

Engage householders adjacent to the dunes in a behaviour change program	Fully	Mylestom residents attended the Healthy Homes workshop series. Including workshop on Garden Escapees and Weed identification. Participants displayed learnt knowledge of plant species and suitable locations for specific plants.
Conduct community planting event	Fully	Local native plants and weeds identification session and tree planting day for Mylestom Residents event held Wednesday 21 st November 2012

4. Our Living River – Estuary Action Project

Actions	Fully/Partially/ not at all	Brief description of what was done
Implement seven Site Action Plans with landholders	Fully	Site Action Plans were implemented on 7 properties (3 Council & 4 private).
Rehabilitate and restore 3.2 km stretch of Bellinger River riverbank (76 Ha)	Partially	Weed control, revegetation, and rock revetment undertaken along 2km of Bellinger River bank (30ha). A large amount of the 76ha originally intended were part of the Golf Course project which was transferred to another funding opportunity through Landcare. The original distance and area estimates were taken directly from the Site Action Plans which include the whole property rather than the riparian zone portion of the property.
Instigate maintenance agreements for works	Partially	Maintenance agreements are in place for 5 of the 7 sites. The 2 remaining sites are Council sites and will be a priority for any future funding opportunities.
Community and golf club participation in the project	Partially	The Golf Club project was transferred to another funding opportunity through Landcare. Northbank Community Gardens planted 1 of the project sites and continues to maintain it through volunteer working bees.
Engage up to 500 community members in a Bellinger River Festival	Fully	Approx. 2000 people attended the Bellinger River Festival 2011. Approx. 500 people participated in workshops, activities & guided tours. 105 local businesses/organisations & 311 individual people were involved in the running of the event.

Planting of 500 riparian plants	Fully	400 trees and Lomandra were planted by 14 community members in the lead up to the festival. 25 people planted 250 trees & 200 Lomandra during the festival. Most of these plants washed away in the January 2012 floods however 280 replacement trees were planted in May 2012.
Increase community appreciation of the Bellinger River	Fully	The community’s response to the River Festival 2011 was overwhelmingly positive. In response to this, the festival was repeated in 2012 and the community continue to praise the event as an enjoyable and effective way to focus on the river and appreciate its beauty, values and management.
Other - Church Street and Jarrett Park river embankment beautification project	Fully	The old riverbank between Church Street and Jarrett Park in Bellingen was upgraded via the planting of 510 native Australian plants in October/November 2012. The project site was 900m2 and aimed to revegetate the embankment to improve the aesthetic properties of the embankment, to improve the biodiversity of the Shire and to help improve bank stability with plantings.

5. Regenesi s – started but could not be complete

The key objectives of the Regenesi s project were to establish a carbon forest on Council land as a demonstration to local landowners and provide home-grown offsets for Council carbon emissions.

Due to the federal government recently approved Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) methodology and criteria for a sequestering carbon via tree plantings (*Carbon Farming Quantifying Carbon Sequestration by Permanent Environmental Plantings of Native Species using the CFI Modelling Tool*) Methodology Determination 2012), Council did not have own a suitable parcel of land suitable to deliver the project under this methodology.

This decision was made on the 4th October 2012. As an alternative, it was then proposed that a “Bellingen Island Rehabilitation” project be implemented but due to approvals and licences required from the Crown this was not achievable by the OLC project completion date.

Nambucca Shire On Ground Works Projects

1. Flying Fox Projects

Actions	Fully / Partially/ not at all	Brief Description of what was done
To restore the EEC components	Partially (10 year project to complete full EEC)	Vast weeding was done to eradicate main weed species and immature camphor laurels. Due to conditions of S95 Licence only a small percentage of canopy could be removed at one time and had to be replaced over time. The draft FF PoM sets out a staged approach to revegetation of the EEC. This PoM was finalised in March 2012 and has yet to be endorsed by Council. The bushcare group will work through the PoM into the future
To increase the area's value as a wildlife corridor	Fully	The vegetation has not been removed only enhanced and therefore the area remains a wildlife corridor
To protect and enhance the Bowraville riparian values	partially	Still much work to be done to enhance riparian values – but this is a long term aim and can not be done in the project time frame of 3 years
To protect and enhance the Macksville remnant lowland rainforest values	partially	The EEC has not been mapped as yet, although biodiversity ground truthing study will be conducted within the next few years to log this area as EEC.
To provide for the community's needs in terms of recreation, education and interpretation	Fully	Grassy park has once again been turned back into a place for community recreation, education and interpretation (once we get our sign)
To identify the management issues	Fully	The FF PoM has identified the management issues within the parks area and sets out recommendations
To incorporate Council's legal, community and cultural protection responsibilities.	partially	The PoM had not been adopted by Council as yet. Although this area has now been highlighted as an area that needs protection.

2. Wellington Rock (V Wall area)

Actions	Fully / Partially/ not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Remove eroded	Fully	A new fenced pathway was installed away from the foredune area and

and inappropriate goat tracks		the old pathways have been replanted and cut off to deter shortcutting.
Install ramp connecting wall to walking track	Fully	The ramp was turned into stairs due to the incline. Duraplas planking and chain will be laid after xmas to help stabilise the trail and make it easier for people to walk on.
Weed eradication program	Fully	The Duncare group have been operating in the area for many years. The EEC that was identified has now been cleared of all weed species and the duncare group will manage this into the future
Remove rubbish and old fencing	Fully	Most of the old fencing was reused within the new track, the old wire and 7 old poles were taken offsite.
Rehabilitation of dune systems	Fully	The old pathway across the dune system has been removed, pioneer species have started to grow across the dune system and will make the area more stable.
Strengthen Banksia and Casuarina plantings	Fully	Adjunct plantings have occurred throughout the area and not just on the old pathways
Install new fencing	Fully	New fencing with dog proof wire has been installed along the new track and recycled fencing along the bush tucker track
Install interpretive signage	Fully	18 interpretative signs have been installed along the trail at various areas to describe the bio-culture of the area – from plants and animals to habitats (both terrestrial and marine) to cultural heritage (both aboriginal and European)
Education program for caravan park residents	Fully	A 5 workshop series was presented at the Caravan park for residents. The incidence of dumping in the park boundaries has been drastically reduced. Worm farms and compost bins for communal use have been installed. A dog doo bag dispenser has been installed for caravan park users. The caravan park has now received its gold gumnut award.
Public Field day and/or community workshops	Fully	A duncare come and try day was held earlier in the year and several people have signed up and been working steadily in the park. The grand opening weekend showcased the trail, from guided tours by Gumbaynggirr custodians showing the areas richness as a food resource to people just coming and looking at what is on offer. 800 people visited the trail in 3 days.

3. Urban Creeks Restoration

Actions	Fully / Partially/ not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Works at Beer Creek	Fully	A Gross Pollutant Trap was installed at Beer creek and enhancement plantings of native species carried out, removal of exotic plants and some revetments works done to protect mangrove forest.
Freshwater Creek	Fully	A Gross Pollutant Trap was installed at Freshwater creek and enhancement plantings of native species carried out, removal of exotic plants.
Bellwood Park	Fully	Revetment works to protect the creek and parklands from wave

		erosion. Enhancement plantings of lomandra and trees to provide shade for park users
Unnamed drain near V Wall	Fully	Clearing of the area of weed species and removing debris to enable some flow (creek was backed up), gabion apron installed to reduce the water erosion during storm events. Enhancement plantings of native species and protection of mangroves.
Education program for residents	Fully	A fun day was held to help residents of each of the catchments understand where pollutants go when it rains 100 people attended. Pamphlets were dropped in each letterbox of every house in each sub-catchment. An annual clean up the river day has been inaugurated and so far has been a success
Education for small business	partially	Business uptake has been slow – businesses that have shown interest have now changed their ways of disposing of oils – businesses drains were stencilled to remind them that this drains to the Nambucca River
Drain stencilling	Fully	Over 1000 drains (that lead to the Nambucca River) have been stencilled by community members, schools and Council staff
Interpretive signage	Fully	An interpretative sign has been ordered and will be erected in Bellwood park

Coffs Harbour City Council Projects

1. Flying Fox Projects

Actions	Fully / Partially/ not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Create an additional vegetation layer to maintain and enhance a cool, humid and sheltered environment for the camp.	Completed	Planting of canopy, midstorey and understorey species has occurred post weed removal. The objective of the plantings is to recreate the onsite plant communities strata, which is currently absent due to weed incursion. The plantings will increase humidity and reduce hot dry winds into the Flying-fox Camp. Planting is considered complete, however the structure will take 5-10yrs to develop.
Revegetate areas to promote biodiversity across the site and reduce the threat of weed incursion	Completed	Extensive weed removal has occurred with >90% reduction in weed biomass within the interior of the camp. Planting of 2200 native plants has occurred as part of this project. The restoration of Three Endangered Ecological Communities has been a priority as well as habitat/food resource increase for 5 threatened fauna species.
Create a buffer edge with indigenous species to provide for visual enhancement and an effective non-roosting screen.	Completed	A buffer edge has been created on the parkland interface to increase the visual amenity of the flying-fox Camp. Species selected are not suitable as roost trees and have a low dense habit. The area has been mulched and clearly defines the Flying-fox Camp boundary to the recreational space, reducing mowing incursion. The plantings will also restricted human access into the camp, creating a protected area for the flying-foxes.
Revegetation of Riparian Areas to Promote Bank Stability around the lake	Completed	Weed removal and seed collection has occurred and the nursery is growing on the specific 150 plants needed to promote bank stability and restore the riparian vegetation community. The planting and maintenance has been costed in the projects follow up budget.
Address camp structure and to promote natural regeneration.	Completed	Reduction in weed biomass has increased natural regeneration over the entire restoration area. Natural regeneration is being monitored closely by bush regeneration staff and sensitive species projected from wallaby browsing with cages. A 60% increase in understorey species regeneration been noted across the project

		area post removal of lantana and vine weeds. Closure of the canopy in two of the plant communities will enhance long-term natural regeneration over a five year period.
Follow up Weed Control Works	Completed	Two programs of weed control have been delivered as part of this project. With a 90% weed biomass reduction in the project area of 5000msq. Coffs Harbour City Council via its Environmental Levy Program have committed funds for ongoing weed control and follow up works.
Regional Flying Fox Management Plan	Incomplete	Quotation contract was drafted, however consultants were no able to deliver the Strategy and community consultation under the project timelines. The Regional Plan was unable to be delivered due to time constraints
Installation of regional interpretive and educational signage	Partially Completed	Signs are designed but waiting for final artwork to be supplied by Office of Environment & Heritage. Final approval is required by the three councils and printing will depend on funding.

Solitary Islands Walk

1. Brief Description

2. Coastal Walk additional support

Project Management and Capital Projects	Tasks	Value (2011/12 - 2012/13)
NPWS Area Manager	Project management oversight	10,000
NPWS Ranger Coffs Coast Area	Project Management, Business Planning and Environmental Assessment, Community Consultation. Bush Regeneration program oversight	60,000
NPWS Ranger Coffs Coast Area	Interpretation project management, Aboriginal Community Consultation	20,000
NPWS Senior Technical Officer	Spatial assessment and mapping for interpretation materials	15,000
NPWS Community Education Officer	Interpretation planning and concept design	4,000

NPWS Interpretations Officer	Interpretation planning and final design oversight	20,000
NPWS Experience Development Coordinator	Tourism industry consultation	2,000
Total Project Management and capital projects		131,000

Bush Regeneration Projects		
NPWS Field Staff (Coffs Coast Regional Park)	Bush regeneration program management and delivery	265,000
NPWS Field Staff (Moonee Beach Nature Reserve)	Bush regeneration program delivery	14,460
NPWS Contractors (Coffs Coast Regional Park)	Contract bush regeneration program delivery	105,000
NPWS Contractors (Moonee Beach Nature Reserve)	Contract bush regeneration program delivery	22,700
Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare Volunteers	Volunteer bush regeneration program delivery (coastal)	900,000
Total Bush Regeneration projects		1,307,160
Grand total		1,438,160

3. Speech Notes for Mayor. Opening of Solitary Islands Coastal Walk
30 November 2012

(Bob Palmer will MC the event and the Mayor is the first speaker)

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land that we are meeting on today - the Gumbaynggirr nation. I would also like to acknowledge their Elders past and present and also those attending today's event.

I would also like to acknowledge our partners in this project - Ann King, Deputy Chief Executive of the National Parks and Wildlife Service/Alan Jeffery, Regional Manager of the National Parks and Wildlife Service – (TBC), Bob Palmer, Chair of the Coffs Coast Regional Trust Board and (other dignitaries – TBC).

I'm very glad to be here today to celebrate the completion of this fantastic – and world class - new tourist and community attraction for the Coffs Coast region.

For those of us who are lucky enough to live here, the absolutely stunning headlands, beautiful beaches and fascinating forest habitats that the Walk now includes have long been a special part of our world.

But Coffs Coast people are the sort of people who like to share and we're more than happy to welcome visitors from all over the world – and just down the road – to join us in enjoying our beautiful landscape.

As I'm Mayor, I'd like to touch on what this world-class attraction will mean for the Coffs Harbour community.

It's a whole new way of linking the people who live in the villages, towns and hamlets along the route.

And that's going to bring new community togetherness.

Not only will it improve the links between our coastal communities and businesses, but it will have a significant impact on our local tourist industry.

We're hoping that it will contribute to our economy and businesses in the same way as other world-class walks have, for example, helped boost the local economy in Alice Springs and the Larapinta Trail.

It's also a massive opportunity for businesses such as accommodation providers, restaurants, resorts and tour guides to get involved.

We have a business plan ready and we'll be working with them on marketing during 2013 to help them make the most of this new attraction.

But this is only the beginning and we intend to continue to work on the project and improve it even further over the coming years.

From my point of view, I'd also like to say that this is going to be great for locals who are proud of where they live.

The Walk gives them yet another opportunity to both experience and showcase their wonderful local environment to visitors.

So I'll just end by thanking the Coffs Coast Regional Park Trust and National Parks for being our partners on the journey towards making the dream of the Solitary Islands Coastal Walk a reality.

Part 3. Householder and Community Engagement Supplementary Data

A. Workshops completed up to Progress report 2011

The following extract from the 2011 OLC Progress report, indicate workshops held up to that time. Information in the final report builds on this.

In 2010 sixteen community education workshops were held across the three Council areas. Each workshop was evaluated and Appendix 5 provides a summary of each workshop evaluation. Our Living Coast staff have been provided with a full evaluation report from each workshop and a sample of one of these can be found at Appendix 6. Workshops were held in five areas, as indicated in the Jetty research [see Appendix.1 and the full report], which formed the baseline information for the development of workshop outlines and areas of focus.

In part the workshops were promoted through a significant PR program and some examples of these are included below.

Bellingen Courier Sun 30/6/2010 [similar articles in the Wollgoolga Advocate and the Coffs Harbour Sun

As energy prices continue to rise ... the Our Living Coast Program will conduct a series of community workshops focused on household sustainability..... Experts in the field suggest that households can reduce their energy usage by between 20% and 50%.

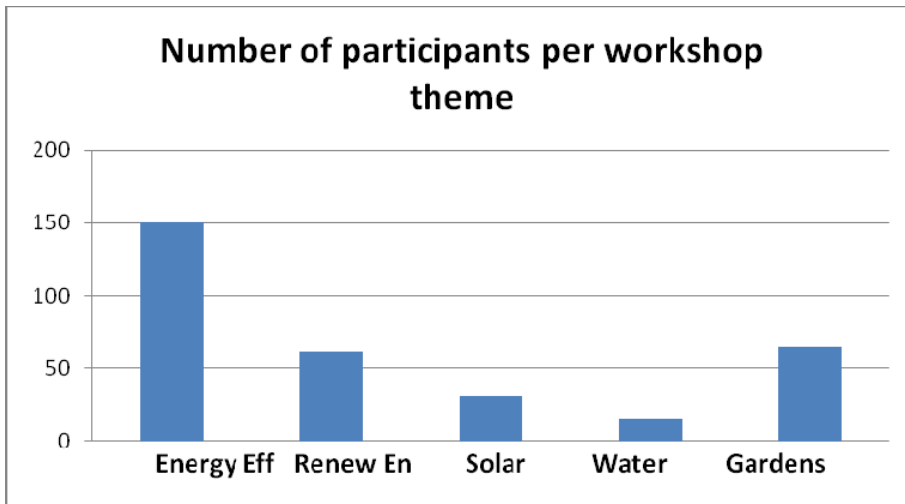
Coffs Coast Advocate November 6 2010

The Our Living Coast community workshops continue this month with a series of free practical gardening sessions.
Growing your own food is not just fun, it also helps generate significant environmental benefits. The production and transportation of food creates large amounts of greenhouse gases so growing your own food (or buying local) can significantly help reduce your ecological footprint.
Gardening is also a great way to socialise as the rapidly growing membership of community gardens, garden clubs and seed-saver networks demonstrates.
People enjoy visiting gardens, exchanging experiences, swapping cuttings or bulbs, learning about new varieties and tasting produce.

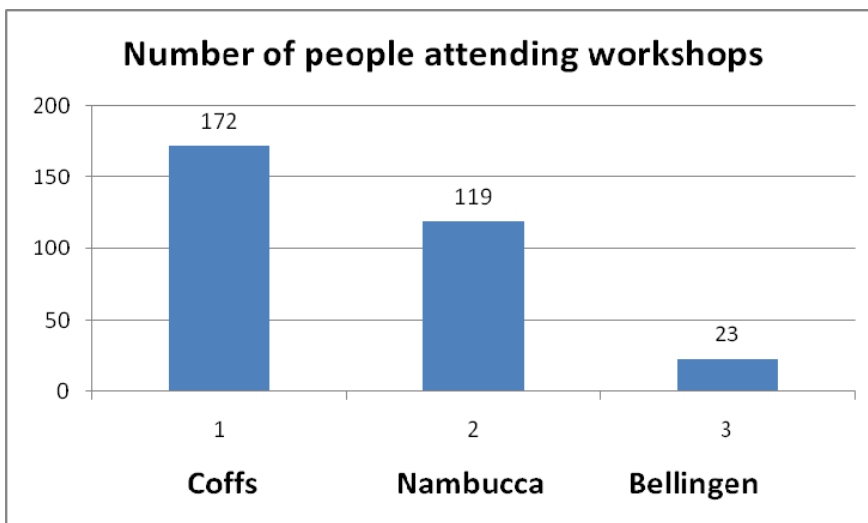
The five theme areas were:

- Energy Efficiency
- Renewable Energy
- Solar
- Water
- Gardening

The graph below indicates the level of attendance across all workshops in each theme



In terms of the location of participants at the workshops the graph below indicates that more people attended from the Coffs LGA than from elsewhere.



Breaking the figures in the above graph down as a proportion of population is interesting. When taken as a proportion of 2009 population estimates, the data shows that Nambucca residents have been a stronger supporter of the workshops than residents from the other two Councils

Nambucca Shire - 0.66% of population
 Bellingen Shire – 0.17% of population,
 Coffs Harbor City – 0.24% of population

It is unknown why the response rate has been so low for Bellingen residents and relatively low in Coffs Harbour. Some anecdotal data exists about challenges in the promotion of workshops. Some concern was expressed about late press releases and the reliance on the Hub to promote workshops. One member of the project team said: *'promotion is too little and too late'*.

It does appear that there are some blockages in getting promotion out there quickly. Councils have signed an MOU about this project and need to work expeditiously to make all aspects of it work appropriately. This means that staff across the communications areas in the three Councils, need to be engaged in the project and support its delivery. Project staff and the Steering Group need to bring people together to work out this matter as soon as possible.

In addition, feedback was received that: *'there is too much reliance on the newsletter and the Website to promote workshops – this only gets to the few percent who are really interested.'* [Council staff member]. In general though, Council staff were positive about the workshops that had occurred: *'In our area there was a good response to the workshops – people liked them.'*

In general terms the following comments can also be made about the workshop series

- a) Over 90% of participants rated the workshops as 'good' or 'very good'.
- b) Participants in the 2010 series of workshops come from the older groups in the community. Almost 75% of those who completed the evaluation form were over 55 years of age. This is of concern as the workshops do not seem to be attracting younger people.
- c) *'Workshops need to be held at different times of the day and be more locally owned.'* [Council staff member] There was a view expressed that the timing of the workshops did not suit younger people.
- d) It is a very disturbing fact that the evaluation form is being completed by less than 50% of participants across all workshops. Our Living Coast has some limitations in its evaluation culture and this is reflected in the poor response rate. It is the responsibility of the workshop facilitator, every time, to get participants to complete the evaluation form before they leave the workshop.
- e) The data collected in the evaluation of the sixteen workshops gives little detail about the behaviours that will be changed as a result of the workshops. There is some evidence of behavioural intent, but no evidence of change. This is not surprising as only one-off workshops have been delivered. It is of note that the evaluation form used for the 2010 workshops was designed prior to the appointment of the program evaluator and does not collect behavioural data at all well. This will be corrected for the 2011 Living Smart Workshop series.
- f) It must be noted though that the workshops were successful, very positively evaluated and 314 people attended the workshops. This is a good result for phase 1.

The summer program with the National Parks and Wildlife Service

In January six workshops/tours were offered to the community in an arrangement between Our Living Coast and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Four of these ran and the other two were cancelled due to bad weather. Of the four that ran only two were evaluated. Information about these can be found at Appendix 7. A summary of the evaluation is also included in the material at Appendix 7. Thirty one people attended these two workshops.

The workshops that were evaluated were very positively received, the following quotes summarise the feedback received:

- *'Loved cultural aspect especially bush tucker and land use history'*
- *'Lots of great history and information'*
- *'Great to hear from local people about food and local history'*

B. Celebration at the conclusion of Our Living Coast Project - Results



Our Living Coast

Household program Celebration results

10 November 2012

The following are a sample of the results from sticky notes collected at the Celebration event.

- Solar on shed, inside house was a microfiber cloth, pantry more ethical
- Solar/alternative energy, watertank, growing food, small footprint
- Better reward & more incentive, harness more unusual topics such as elephant power!
- Kids corner. Make it easier for people with kids to come along
- Watertanks, growing own food, saving money on power, sense of community 0 meeting other people
- Building a better web of people to help get more people to go down the track of sustainable living
- Getting everyone involved, those who already have – keep them!
- building bridges toward sustainability, making people aware of the importance of protecting the environment, unlocking secrets and sharing information, reduce food miles by buying/selling farmers markets
- we need a community meeting place and money to build it. Then we'll have a place to continue meeting.
- Project for planting trees, vegies, with LETS shop to barter goods and services and a community hall
- Joining a community, community functions, conduit for bringing community together, gathering people together, common interest, starting to introduce these ideas to the workplace
- Organising transport for community usage, more outdoor workshops, building sustainable trees and flower/vegies organic
- plant more trees – Council gives every household a tree – go to community garden
- Transport – not equitable low socio economic not able to attend – hire transport or organise car pooling
- Networking where do people find out about services & workshops. Fly the flags – network among friends and neighbours

Our Living Coast Evaluation – Supplementary Report

- Local Community participants
- LETS – filming, kids involved graffiti, webinars, train the trainer
- Overall models – communication, networking, growing your own community, making friends, providing equity among community
- Lots more workshops, online webinars so that everyone can stay connected and go global
- Put video's of workshops on you tube
- Train the trainer so there are more people sharing info
- Maureen changed the type of fish bought, planted more trees, became more aware of turning power off at wall and met new friends.
- Improvements: Better advertising of events – community noticeboards, hospital noticeboard, schools, consistent design, visual impact, library, door knocking, sending letters/emails, community post offices. Child friendly. If you miss one do you have to miss all? Registration. Telephone communication for people with no computer facilities
- Control of weeds make native trees grow better – would like a wind turbine to pump bore water. Sharing info from workshops with neighbours – weeds, power, cleaning. Clean environment free of weeds and clean waterways, make good habitat for birds and reptiles.

C. Notes from OLC Focus Group Valla Beach 28 November 2012 – note order reflects order in which questions were asked.

*** Comment: "Elle, you did a Top Job!"**

12. What is your best memory of OLC?

- Absolutely loved everything I learnt in the workshops.
- The permaculture project at the primary school was such a community thing – mostly grandparents of the students – not many young people. It's still going and gets kids involved after school. We all went down on Saturday and did work on it and they have a pizza pit there and we all had pizza.
- The thing for me was that I attended - if I hadn't, I wouldn't have enjoyed it so much.
- 'Know Your Weeds' workshop. We live on two acres and I need to know this.
- I have many happy memories – the Food Wasting workshop – I liked it so much I've asked for a 'preserving food' book for Christmas.
- The Food Wastage workshop and the Electricity one, it's helped us – in leaps and bounds. Just by changing our electricity use, after the workshop our bill was much less.
- The celebration – the venue is part of our community.
- The thing I really liked was meeting like-minded people. Oh and also my husband's face when he got that weed book! He's showing it to everyone!
- I've tried to make everything as sustainable as possible.
- What I loved most was that the information was really easy to work with and use.
- The day we had a guy come out and talk about the garden - and a lot of people came.
- Rejuvenating my enthusiasm. I've 'lived it' for a long time, but to see my three year old and eighteen month old planting seeds was wonderful!
- The Electricity Saving night with someone who explained what was on the power bill – breaking it down - that was terrific.
- Mine's a selfish one. I got a new washing machine courtesy of the group. It's a \$1,500 front loader. If anyone doesn't have a front loader, go and get one. Everything's cleaner!

- Was I liked about it was getting back to simpler way of living. I grew up on a farm, growing things – it took me back to that way of living – ‘village life’.
- We got a great big community website out of it and that’s a great thing.
- I got a lot of good information out of it. Sharing ideas and bouncing ideas off like-minded people.

1. How aware is the community of the OLC project? To what extent is it visible in the community?

- One way was broad publicity of the program in places like notice boards in libraries. I saw it and that’s why I attended.
- I was aware of that but I think a lot of people didn’t see anything about it.
- Unfortunately I am missing things because I don’t have a computer.
- I found out about it by chance from a friend. I asked Elle about it and she said it was on the back page of the local paper, but I think that few people ever read the back page.
- There’s no local newspaper in Valla Rural, so nobody knew about it.
- Here in Valla Beach, Elle came and sat at our market and told people and took people’s names. With the Electricity one, we filled the whole hall.
- The name didn’t make it clear what it was about. Some people just deleted the emails because they thought they were from a local real estate agent.
- You only need one person to see the advertisement and then talk to other people. We told a lot of people and then they turned up to workshops they were interested in.
- It’s about identifying how best to advertise it in the future.

2.& 3. What evidence exists of increased community awareness of the region’s coastal biodiversity and sustainability values? Is there evidence of increased biodiversity as a result of the project?

- The information was good because it wasn’t just about land and gardens. I’ve lived in the bush, but now I’m a flat dweller and I even learned about what I can do here.
- In Nambucca they’re doing weed control, and also having someone looking at beach access.
- A lot of weed control is happening on my doorstep. It faces onto a caravan park. There’s no (green?) waste disposal, hence a lot of green waste and weeds dumping. Nambucca Council doesn’t have a tree preservation order. Trees are getting cut down and half of the regeneration area is being cut. We need a tree preservation order and green waste disposal in caravan parks.
- Changes in our own house, seeing impact on bird life and insects. It’s happening in other houses in our street too. There’s huge potential for raising awareness about all these things.
- Before we had the weed workshop we were going to have an environmental market but we put it off . Quite a lot of people came along to the workshop and then we had the market and lots of people came.
- The walk the Council has funded at Shelley Beach. People will have access to see the biodiversity.

5. Is there evidence of the availability of walking and cycling maps in each Alliance Council?

- Regarding the walking track: When you saw people working on the track – it was great - there were a lot of indigenous people involved. It would be good to do that here. You see people every morning out walking in Nambucca. Everybody could work together on the track. We, as a community, would grow so much more rich.
- Creates that sense of community.

- Recreational activity – Cycle Track - Council could put money into make it transport to work. Making things more accessible to people.

6. Have the various workshops the website and the newsletters been successful activities? If not, why not?

Successful because:

Workshops

- Workshops very good - focused and practical.
- Workshops successful for the people who attended. Possible ripple effects through community.
- Successful because of community engagement and resource sharing.
- I liked the 'gifts' - the free trees were good.
- In our workshop there were six teenagers who loved all the devices.
- Elle was terrific.
- Down to earth terminology.

Website

- Website was used to find out when workshops were on, and other information.
- Good - provided a broader perspective.

Newsletters

- Useful – even more useful than website. Good for events, competitions etc. You can go to the website for more info, led by the newsletter.
- Successful for good reminders and prompts.
- Reached a broad audience.

Not successful because:

Workshops

- Workshops too far apart in some areas.
- Unsuccessful because they had a narrow demographic selection.
- I didn't like all the gifts.
- The title 'Our Living Coast' was not specific so a lot of people didn't know what it was about.
- Different branding may be better. Advertise workshop in simple language e.g. 'Garden Workshop'.
- Attendance poor in Urunga and Bowraville – community apathy.
- Small groups restricted input, so not so successful.

Website

- Processing registrations was 'clunky' and difficult to use on website.
- Unsuccessful because you had to be on Facebook to access it.
- If you are not computer literate it was not easy to get follow up.
- It would be good to say the newsletter is available - and to put a link to the newsletter on the website would be even better.

Newsletters

- If you don't have email you didn't get newsletters.

7. Can you comment on your local sustainability project? Was it successful or not?

Successful because:

- Nambucca Refresh Garden at the Youth Centre. 'Juice Garden' - social, education for youth, which was a missed target in the workshops.
- Citrus orchard planted in the football park – difficult to decide if it's successful.
- Taylors Arm Website is successful at being a hub for community events, community building, history of the area etc.
- Sawtell – tree planting was delivered well, but a long term project, success unknown.
- Valla – blinds to be installed in hall - will be very successful as the hall is well used.
- The landscaping at the entrance to Valla Beach creates hope, pride and connectivity – a good start.
- Macksville flower boxes started well – 20 to be done. Looks good and has received positive comments
- Bowraville Flying Fox - successful
- Scotts Head group got worm farms and compost bins which is great.
- Urunga got a fridge for the community hall that will save on electricity bills.
- Scotts Head community garden has been very successful.

Not successful because:

As a representative of Urunga I don't know what happened, and I would have liked an ongoing projects, not just a one-off 'gift'.

8. What evidence exists that Councils are more focused on sustainability as a result of the OLC project?**General:**

- "Not being permanently funded has really restricted the ability to commit to sustainable projects long term. Projects continue until funding runs out, and that's it."

Coffs Council:

- It's done wonders for Council reputation – increased sustainability profile.

Nambucca:

- No evidence of change. There's more awareness in the community about how bad the Council is.
- The street beautification in Macksville, the Council was supportive while it had the money.
- The Council has a very good Weed Officer
- The Council is not continuing to employ their Environmental Officer after the funding stops next month. "Doing away with the Environmental officer doesn't sound very sustainable!"

Bellingen:

- No evidence - but it is hoped the new Council elected with more environmentally aware officers, will make a difference.

11. If it occurred again how might OLC be improved?

- Embed it into an existing organisation.
- Approach a younger demographic – also use existing organisation such as the P&C.

- More 'hands on' would have suited me.
- I would have liked something on-going, to keep contact with the green community.
- Mandate that the Council has a councillor responsible.
- Word of mouth – keep hammering all the time.
- Keep workshops going and for everyone to go to all of them.
- I think, like with Macksville, plants and pots beautified, it's so positive. More treeplanting along the river.
- Hands on projects, also using natural things you have in the cupboard – the old vinegar isn't too bad, and Bi Carb.
- I'd like to see more for training up the younger people.
- It's already happening in schools' community gardens, but I'd like to reach the young ones who've left school. The older ones are more committed; we need the mid-range age group.
- Workshops conducted in Youth Centres – bush tucker, herbs etc.
- Incorporate workshops on composting.
- Engage the disengaged.
- Utilising other groups as happened in some places.
- Longer timeframes – it all takes time – educating people to move.

What did I want from the workshops I went on that did not eventuate? As a qualified bush regenerator and volunteer in a couple of other capacities, I suppose I am always looking for paid work of some kind. I would have loved to work on the coastal path or any planting project or other environmental project. I think jobs create a sustainable community - sustainable jobs that is - so it would be good to see paid employment as a measurable outcome for any project.

Part D. All Healthy Homes Evaluation Reports

Our Living Coast Healthy Homes Report Bowraville Workshops

Introduction

Healthy Homes workshops were held between November 2011 and June 2012. This report covers four workshops held in Bowraville between November 2011 and April 2012. The workshops are:

- Energy Efficiency
- Green Cleaning and Detox your Home
- What does your Garden Grow? Weed Identification and Solutions
- Installing Big Ticket Items

All workshops are evaluated independently below.

In addition, participants completed lifestyle and behaviour data questionnaires and these are reported below.

Key Findings Bowraville Healthy Homes

The data below from all sources indicates that in Bowraville:

- Attendance a workshops varied substantially from 3 only at the Energy Efficiency Workshop to 20 at the Green Cleaning workshop. Twenty two people provided lifestyle data and 4 provided in depth behaviour change data.
- Workshops were highly positively evaluated, substantial knowledge increase occurred at all workshops and participant expectations were met.
- Participants commented that the workshops met their needs and that they were well presented. The most stated negative was that there was insufficient time to cover all the necessary content.
- With regard to lifestyle issues:
 - Two respondents paid over \$700 for energy quarterly. But most people were in the \$201 to \$400 bracket. Over 75% had electric storage electricity systems; 3 had PV cells and only 5 had greenpower; few had LEDs but the majority had CFLs; over 25% had air-conditioning.
 - Most grew food at home [vegetables almost 75%]; Almost all bought local food, and almost half bought fair trade food sometimes;; most ate meat.
 - Almost 50% bought non-toxic cleaning products
 - Car use was high with limited car pooling [only sometimes and 33%]. Walking quite popular but few people cycled.
 - Seventy five percent composted at home and 50% used the Council greenwaste service

- People had varying knowledge of native plants and over 50% grew natives at home. Only two people were involved in bush regeneration.
- Seventy five percent have a rainwater tank and use it mostly for garden watering and in the laundry and kitchen. Almost all had half flush toilets and most had low flow shower heads.
- With regard to behaviour people indicated that as a result of the workshops that they:
 - turn the power off at the powerpoint, set their hot water system thermostats lower in summer, set fridge temperatures appropriately, improved home insulation.
 - Have cleaned out all store bought chemicals, use vinegar, bicarb, tea tree oil, methylated spirits, cloudy ammonia and borax more [or intend to do so]
 - Grow more veggies herbs and fruit at home; plant indigenous plants more, mulch more.
 - Two people have got a quote on solar power/ hot water installation and two have already installed these.
 - One has installed a rainwater tank and two more intend to do so.

A. Workshop Reports

Workshop 1: Energy efficiency

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 19th of November 2011 and was presented by Art Drayton, Secretary of the Alternative Technology Association Coffs Harbour . There were only 3 participants for the workshop, 2 of whom completed the evaluation forms. This workshop had been cancelled previously due to extremely low registration numbers however, no additional participants registered for the eventual date. One additional person attended without registering, was somewhat disruptive and did not wish to discuss the topic in question but rather focused on Aboriginal and White race relations which was considered important by the organiser but not within the remit of the workshop. The organiser offered to follow this up with him outside the session and he did not complete an evaluation form

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 1
 Number of females: 1

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%
 15 to 24: 0%
 25 to 34: 0%
 35 to 44: 0%
 45 to 54: 50%
 Over 55: 50%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	50%	0%

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



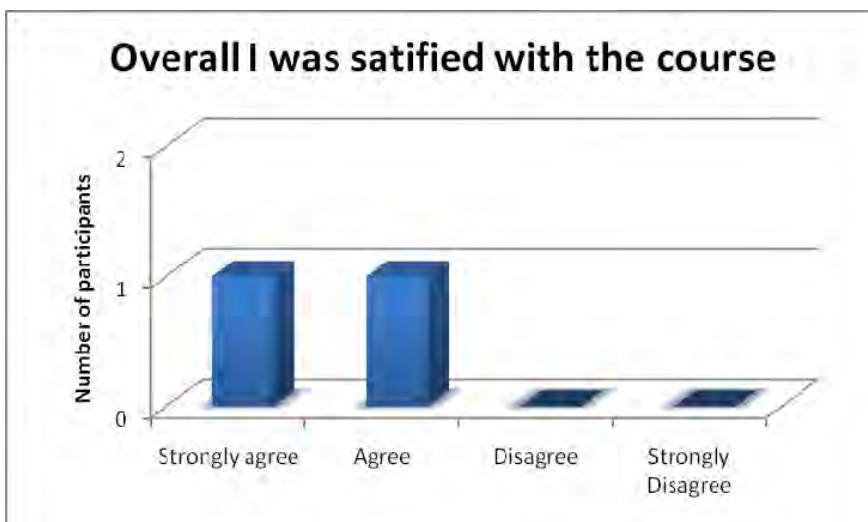
Comments on expectations:

Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Neither participant made a comment.

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; "overall I was satisfied with the course". The results are represented on the graph below.

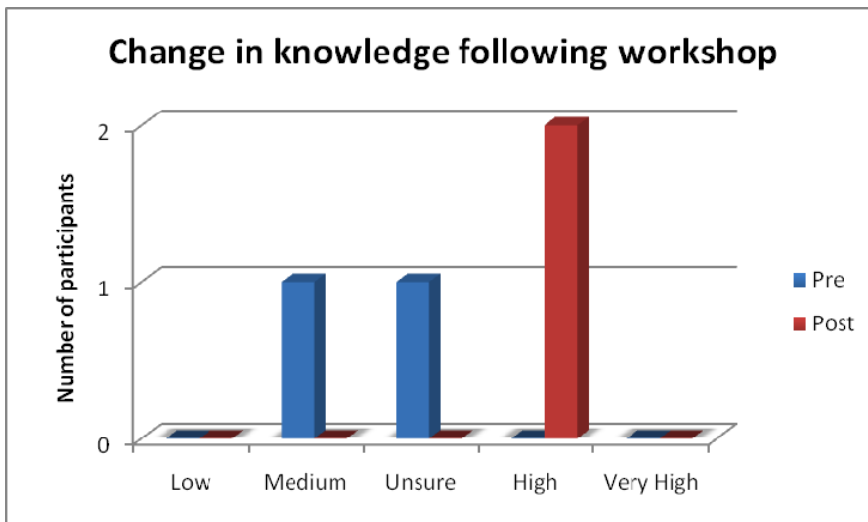


Course notes

One of the two participants stated that the course notes were useful. The remaining one did not respond

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

Nil

Workshop 2: Green Cleaning and Detox your Home

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 18th of February 2012 at the Bowraville Pioneer Centre. It was presented by Gwenn Hanna of Building Wisdom. The workshop was well attended with 20 people participating. The organisers worked extremely hard to promote the event including an advertisement in the local paper a press release and a word of mouth campaign by Jaqui Ashby. Fifteen of the twenty participants completed the evaluation form.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 4

Number of females: 3

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%
 15 to 24: 0%
 25 to 34: 0%
 35 to 44: 7%
 45 to 54: 53%
 Over 55: 40%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
20%	14%	0%	0%	0%	47%	39 % Email, TAFE, pamphlet, council, brochure from Jaqui Ashby, word of mouth

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

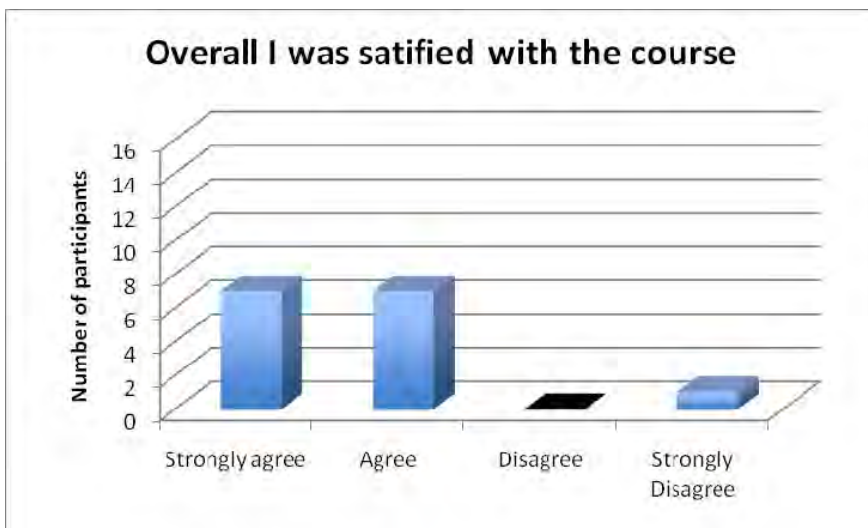
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- To hear more about safe cleaning products.
- No expectations!
- Full of useful tips.
- Hints for now and future.
- To become aware of toxic things.
- Lots more information.
- Good information.
- What I got?
- Gaining of knowledge.
- Better than expected.

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; "overall I was satisfied with the course". The results are represented on the graph below.

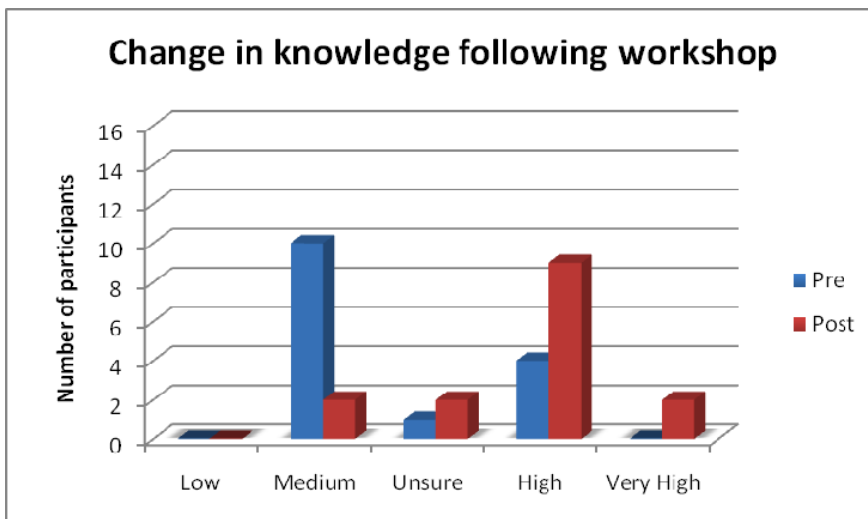


Course notes

All fifteen participants who responded stated that the course notes were useful.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- Informative session, all this info needs to become common knowledge.
- Like to link with other groups for funding.
- Informative, more info on cleaning.
- This knowledge needs to reach a broader base of the community.

Workshop 3: What does your garden grow- weed identification and solutions.

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 17th of March 2012 and was presented by Tien, Green Earth works, Nambucca Valley Landcare and TAFE teacher .The workshop was attended by eight people of whom seven completed the evaluation form.

Comments from the organizers describe the workshop as very well received with a knowledgeable enthusiastic presenter. Samples of weeds were shown to assist participants in identification. The organiser felt that the time was a little short meaning the presenter needed to rush through the material.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 1

Number of females: 6

Age of participants (%)

- Under 15: 0%
- 15 to 24: 0%
- 25 to 34: 0%
- 35 to 44: 9%
- 45 to 54: 29%
- Over 55: 171%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
43%	0%	0%	14%	0%	28%	14% Bowra Community News

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

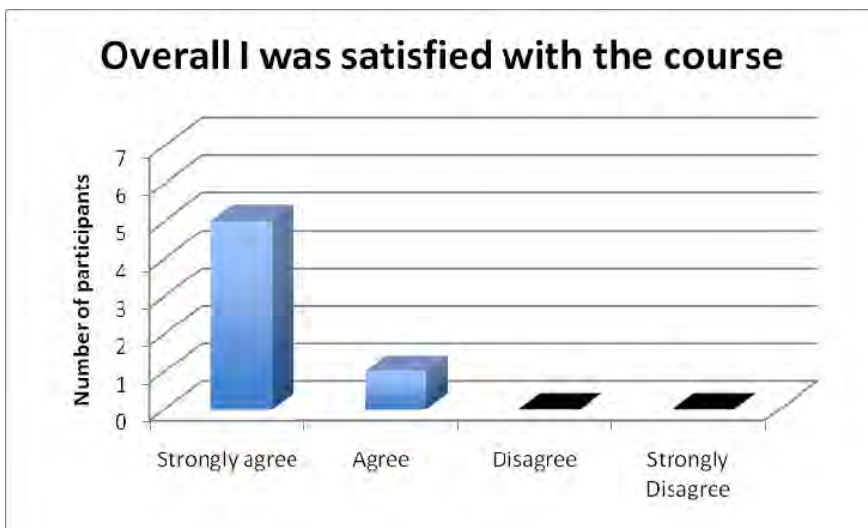
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- New information.
- Had none.
- To know the best approaches.
- To find new/better approaches to weed control.

Satisfaction with the Workshop

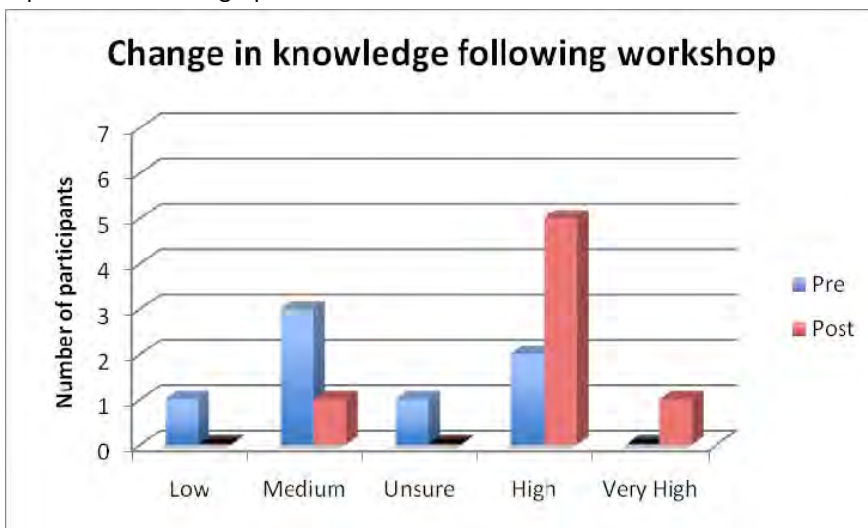
Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.



Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graph below.



Additional comments:

- Tien was a mine of information- all of it practical
- Need more time.
- A great bonus to get some trees.

Workshop 4: Installing big ticket items: Solar, solar hot water (SHW) and Rainwater tanks

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 21st of April 2012 and was presented by Tony Slade from TAFE Plumbing and Mark McClurg of Self Sufficient Homes. The workshop was attended by only 6 people, all of whom completed the evaluation forms. There were two new participants, due to wide spread local promotion. One person attended from Millpark who had found out about the workshop through Costa’s World website.

The organiser notes that the workshop was very interactive and participants were given individual opportunities to ask questions which then formed the basis for the discussion. Participants were given a pack from Self Sufficient Homes and one couple who wished to install Solar Hot water immediately were offered an inspection directly following the workshop.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 2

Number of females: 4

Age of participants (%)

- Under 15: 0%
- 15 to 24: 0%
- 25 to 34: 0%
- 35 to 44: 17%
- 45 to 54: 33%
- Over 55: 50%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends /family	Other
17%	0%	0%	33%	0%	10%	50% Email Costa’s World Website Community Newsletter

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

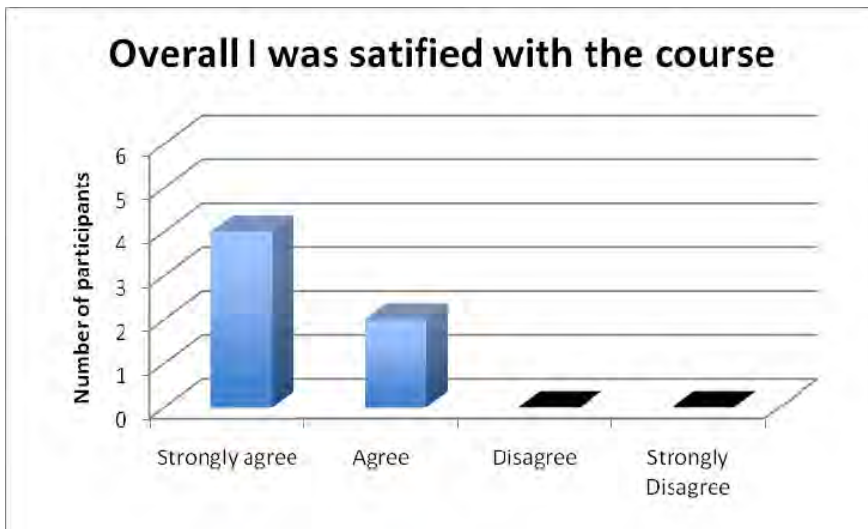
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- Rebates on tanks
- Current information
- To find out basic information re solar/rainwater collection, rebate details
- To receive easy to understand info about water and electricity in terms of sustainability
- Unrealistic! Not enough session time to answer all of my needs along with everyone else. BUT it was great.

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; "overall I was satisfied with the course". The results are represented on the graph below.

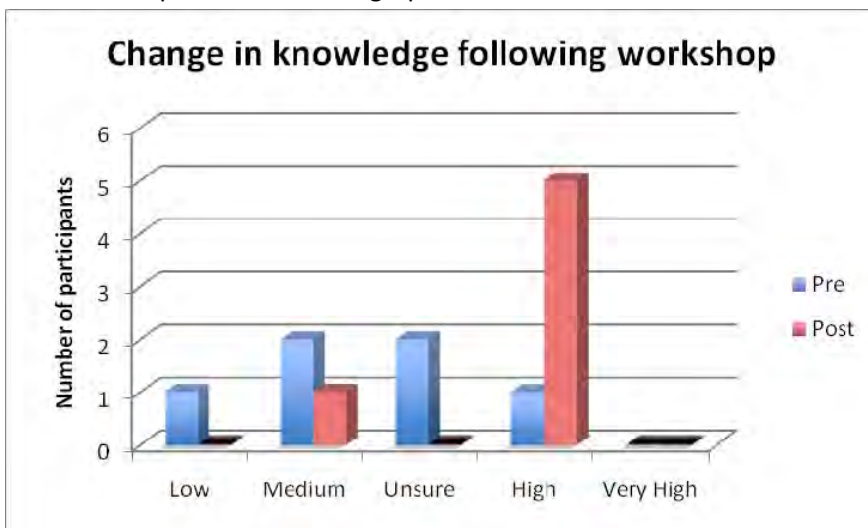


Course notes

All six participants stated that the course notes were useful.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- Well presented and friendly workshop
- Today’s presenters were both enthusiastic, knowledgeable and flexible- terrific facilitators
- Not good on Bello Market day. The session –nowhere near enough time for the topic.

B. Bowraville Lifestyle Results

This section indicates the lifestyle choices that workshop participants were making prior to the workshop. They are laid out under specific sections, each colour-coded

- Energy
- Food
- Cleaning Transport
- Waste
- Biodiversity
- Water

Bowraville demographics for the lifestyle data is in the box to the right. Twenty two people completed the lifestyle questionnaire at Bowraville.

Demographics							
Are you?							
	homeowner	renter	other				
Number of participants	16	4	2				

How many people live in your household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
Number of participants	6	7	4	1	0	0

Gender		
	male	female
Number of participants	7	13

Age						
	< 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	over 55
Number of participants	0	0	0	5	14	3

Energy

Electricity consumption								
Cost	\$0-\$100	\$101-\$200	\$201-\$300	\$301-\$400	\$401-\$500	\$501-\$600	\$601-\$700	over \$700
Number of participants	1	1	6	4	1	3	0	2

Hot water service type							
Type	electric storage	electric instant	gas instant	solar	fuel stove	gas	other
Number of Participants	16	0	1	1	0	1	1 Quantom

Do you have PV?			
	PV Yes	PV No	kWh capacity
Number of participants	3	16	10kva
			1.5

Greenpower						
	no	< 25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	15	2	1	0	0	2

How many CFLs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	1	1	1	3	11	4

How many LEDs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	13	5	1	0	0	0

How do you heat your home										
	open fire	slow combustion stove	gas heater	gas central heater	hydronic	fan	radiative	convection	reverse cycle air conditioner	other
Number of participants	2	3	3	0	0	2	3	2	3	4

Heating thermostat		
	In winter	n/a
Number of participants	4	9

Air-conditioning		
	yes	no
Number of participants	6	15

Aircon temp								
	In summertime	n/a	17degrees	18 degrees	19 degrees	20 degrees	21 degrees	22 degrees
Number of participants	5	10	1	0	0	2	0	2

Insulation				
	ceiling	walls	floor	hot water pipes
Number of participants	13	8	3	4

Turn off switches			
	most	some	none
Number of participants	15	6	1

Food

Grow your own			
	fruit	herbs	vegetables
Number of participants	8	14	14

Buy local food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	19	0	3

Buy organic food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	5	6	10

Fair trade food & drink				
	yes	no	sometimes	don't know
Number of participants	3	3	9	5

Vegetarian			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	0	18	4

How many serves of meat per week					
	1to3	3to5	5to7	8to10	10+
Number of participants	6	4	5	0	1

Cleaning

Cleaning products currently use				
	store bought chemical products	store bought "enviro friendly" products	non-toxic cleaning products	Other
Number of participants	9	12	10	1

Transport

Average car km travel week					
	0-100km	101-200km	201-300km	301-400km	400+ km
Number of participants	4	7	6	2	1

Carpool			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	7	10	2

Carbon offset air travel				
	most	some	none (inc don't fly)	don't know
Number of participants	1	1	6	3

Do you walk					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	9	10	3	0	0

Do you cycle					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	1	1	0	2	16

Waste

Green waste					
	home compost	home worm farm	council green waste	rubbish bin	other
Number of participants	15	3	10	1	3

Sort waste for recycling		
	yes	no
Number of participants	21	0

Biodiversity

Knowledge of native plants										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	2	1	3	0	7	1	2	1	1	3

Grow native plants			
	yes	no	some
Number of participants	13	2	6

Involved with bush regeneration		
	yes	no
Number of participants	2	16

Water

Rainwater tank		Use rainwater for							Capacity		
	yes	no	garden	laundry	kitche n	toilet	bathroom	other	Capacity under 5000	Capacity 5000- 10000	Capacity over 10000
Number of participants	15	7	16	9	10	8	9	5	2	8	1

Water saving devices installed									
	half flush toilet	low flo shower head	tap aerator kitchen	tap aerator bathroom	trigger nozzle garden	weight regulator toilet	washing machine water efficient	grey water reuse	other
Number of participants	20	15	10	8	11	2	11	2	0

C. Behaviour Change

This section indicates the actual and intended behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops at Bowraville

With regard to the Healthy Homes program, what are the three most important things you gained?

- Knowledge
- Knowledge about how harmful store bought chemical products are - I didn't realize they were that bad
- Cleaning homes without detergents etc
- Know how
- Ways to get rid of mould, and why it's dangerous
- Confidence to proceed
- Native plants are always the way to go when choosing for your garden
- The information that was presented in the folder is really useful reference material
- Native plants indigenous to our local area should be maintained

Changes in behaviour

Participants were asked "What changes have you made/will you make as a result of these workshops – please tick those you have done as a result of the program and those you intend to do – if it is not applicable to your situation tick the n/a column and anything you had already done before the workshops leave the boxes blank."

Energy

Changed old incandescent light globes to CFLs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	0

Changed old incandescent light globes to LEDs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	2	0

Turn standby power off at the power point			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	0

Change thermostat on heaters (18-20°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	3

Change thermostat on air conditioners (23-26°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	2

Set thermostat for hot water service to 60°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	0

Set temperature of fridge to 5°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	0

Set temperature of freezer for -15 °C			
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	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	1

Installed or topped up house insulation

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Turn off bar fridge or 2nd fridge

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	3

Switched to “green power” through your electricity supplier or increased your % of greenpower.

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Installed solar PV electricity

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed solar hot water system			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Cleaning

Have cleaned out the cupboards of all store bought chemical cleaning products			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	2	0

Use Vinegar			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Use bicarbonate soda			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Use borax			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	0

Use Cloudy ammonia			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	1	2	0
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Tea tree oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	0

Methylated spirits			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	0

Tea tree oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	0

Use microfibre cloths			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	0

Other Changes

Washed the walls with vinegar, clove oil on bathroom tiles, bought Eco dishwashing liquid, washing powder etc

Recycled toilet paper, earth friendly washing powder, earth friendly dish washer liquid

Made sure all the mould is cleaned out of the house. I intend to get rid of carpets in bedrooms and polish the floor boards

Garden

Grow your own fruit			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	1	2	0
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Grow your own herbs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Grow your own vegetables			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Plant indigenous plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Identified weeds in your garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Remove weeds			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Built a no dig food garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Mulch your plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Started a worm farm			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Installed and using a compost bin/heap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Big Ticket Items

Started a savings account for renewable energy on my house			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	0

Got a quote for solar power installation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	1

Got a quote for solar hot water installation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	0

Got a quote for a rainwater tank			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Have installed solar power (electricity)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Have installed solar hot water			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Have installed rainwater tank(s)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	0

Have installed gas instantaneous hot water service			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	1	1

Shopping

There were no recorded responses to this section.

Food

There were no recorded responses to this section.

Results of these changes

Have you seen any results from these changes so far? What are they?

- Using companion plants
- Tastier herbs from veggie garden and smellier (basil). Natives trees brings birds (lorikeets and gullaws). When switched to gas stove and turn off power points, notice decrease in bill.
- Feel like we can breathe more easily in the house due to lack of mould
- Not physically, but mentally I am more aware of what I'm buying and how it will affect my family and the people who visit my home.

What results do you expect to see in the future?

- Picking my own pest free and chemical free
- Solar hot water with gas hot water to support it in rainy days. Water tank with grey water. Solar electricity.
- Easier and more thorough cleaning without the carpets in
- Hope to see electricity bills decline to decent levels

What's stopping you from making changes? Can you list or describe any barriers?

- Low budget at the moment

- We have already made many changes in each of the areas above, so there isn't a lot of additional changes we can make.
- I would like to do a compost heap, but lack of space is an issue.
- Money. Money & money

Any other comments?

- A very well presented workshop
- Wanting to be a green interior designer, already am finishing diploma in Interior Design, but want to be an accredited green designer
- I only attended one workshop, on cleaning, due to previous engagements.

Demographics for behaviour data

Gender

	Male	Female
Number of participants		4

Age

	Under 15	15-24	25-34	35 - 44	45 - 55	Over 55
Number of participants	0	0	1	0	3	0

Our Living Coast Healthy Homes Report Mylestom Workshops

In announcing that the last workshop in the series would be the next one there was a resounding disappointment with one participant saying *“But we’re just getting our groove – can’t we do more.” I will try and factor this in looking at the budget allocation. Maybe some field trips on a weekend into the environment. I think doing it every two weeks has helped to knit together the community here a bit better with this workshop having the most consistent attendance rate.*

Introduction

Healthy Homes workshops were held between November 2011 and June 2012. This report covers four workshops held in Mylestom between March 2012 and May 2012. This group met fortnightly instead on once per month which was decided at the information evening. At this time the group also decided that a weeknight was the preferred session time, some attendees at the first session were concerned that the timing would make it difficult for elderly people to attend. Information was given on the workshops held in Urunga (a short drive away) which were midweek daytime sessions All workshops are evaluated independently below.

Key Findings Mylestom Healthy Homes

The data below from all sources indicates that in Mylestom:

- Forty three people attended the workshops; nine people completed lifestyle data and five people provide behaviour change data.
- Workshops were highly positively evaluated, substantial knowledge increase occurred at all workshops and participant expectations were met.
- Participants commented that the workshops met their needs and that they were well presented.
- Participants said it was: *Great having examples of things.....Very interesting and informative.....So helpful to me and very sociable- thank you!*
- The only negative comments related to timing of the workshops [daytime] and specific issues of detail: *Would have been nice to have had some samples of the different chicken feeds and grits.*
- Lifestyle Issues included:
 - Two people paid more than \$700 a quarter for electricity, but most paid less than \$300/quarter
 - Three people had solar hot water but the rest had electricity. No-one had photovoltaic cells
 - Only one person paid for greenpower [50%]
 - Hardly anyone used LED lighting and three only used 10% CFLs
 - Great diversity in home heating used. One aircon only though
 - Over 50% turned off power at the switch most of the time
 - 66% bought local food and most grew some of their own food

- No full time vegetarians and most ate meat almost every day
- Prior to the workshops only 40% purchased non toxic cleaning products
- Two participants travel more than 400km a week in the car. One carpooled. Four walk daily and 75% never cycle.
- All sort waste for recycling, and only two have a rainwater tank.

- Behaviour change
 - Participants reported actual changes in behaviour: *Reduction in power bills, reduction in cleaning costs, reduction in water bills.....I am wiser about choices I make, hopefully saving \$ and time.*
 - Those that reported changes had changed to CLFs and intend to change to LEDs
 - 50% had changed so they turned power off at the power point
 - 100% had set temperature on the fridge at 5 degrees and the freezer at -15degrees
 - All intend to stop using store bought cleaning products. All have started using vinegar and bicarb and all but one has begun using microfiber clothes
 - More indigenous plants will be planted 40%and weds will be removed
 - 50% have got a quote for solar hot water and two have installed solar hot water systems since the workshops.

- Overall
 - *Just a fantastic 4 sessions. Elle has been a wonderful presenter.*
 - *Thank you. Would like to see more. Thanks again*
 - *Thank you, I learn't a lot*
 - *Great workshops, good presenters, interesting topics*
 - *Really enjoyable courses, packed with information at every level by knowledgeable and friendly people.*

A. Workshop Reports

Workshop 1: Green Cleaning and Detox your home

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 13th of March 2012 at Mylestom Community Hall. It was presented by Gwen Hanna of Building Wisdom. . Nine people attended the session and all completed the evaluation form which forms the basis of this report.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 3

Number of females: 6

Our Living Coast Evaluation – Supplementary Report

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%
 15 to 24: 0%
 25 to 34: 0%
 35 to 44: 22%
 45 to 54: 11%
 Over 55: 67%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
11%	0%	0%	22%	0%	56%	11% Work

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses were:

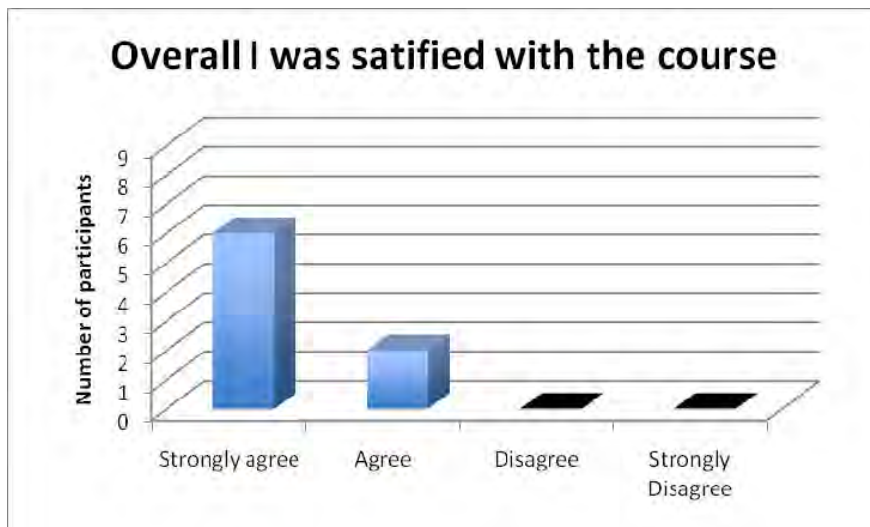
- To learn how to clean my home without chemicals
- Skeptical (2)

- To learn something

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.

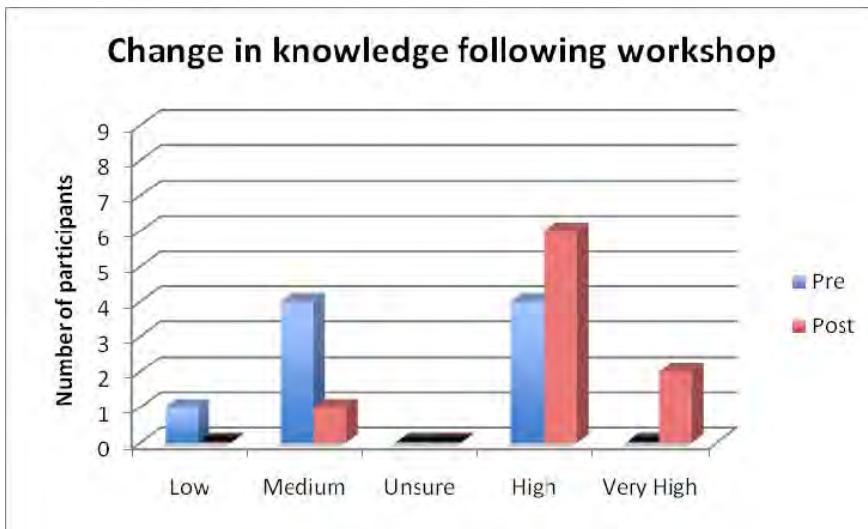


Course notes

Eight of the nine participants stated that the course notes were useful. The remaining person felt they were not sure.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graph below.



Additional comments:

- Very informative
- Needed to make notes as handouts were different-could we have both?
- Very interesting

Workshop 2: Energy Efficiency

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 27th of March 2012 at the Mylestom Community Centre. It was presented by Art Drayton, Alternative Technology Association Secretary. The workshop was well attended with 14 people participating. The organiser reported that people attended from other area such as Bellingham, Bonnevillie etc. and that the group was starting to form a connection at this group. All fourteen completed the evaluation form.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 4

Number of females: 10

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%

15 to 24: 0%

25 to 34: 7%

35 to 44: 21%

45 to 54: 14%

Over 55: 53%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
29%	7%	0%	21%	0%	43%	7% Flyer at Urunga library

Note % exceeds 100% due to people indicating more than one response.

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

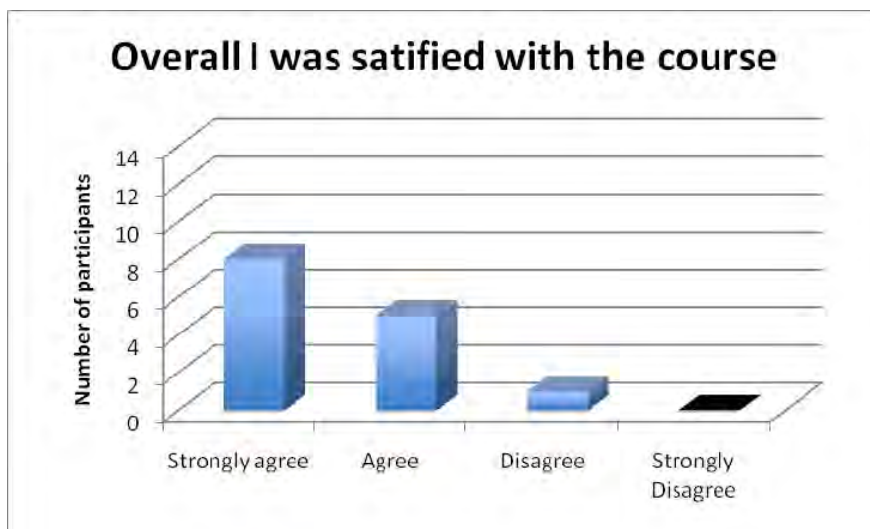
- Very informative
- Learn about energy efficiency for planet and at home
- Learn how to save some energy
- Hoped to learn more
- To get more info to help me
- To gain more knowledge

- Learn how to measure power usage and save on power in areas of the home and latest types of lighting.
- Save money

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.

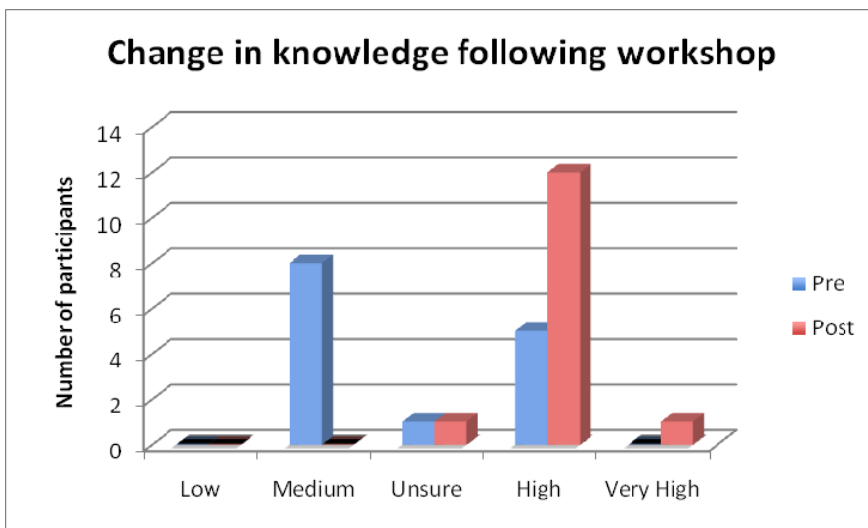


Course notes

12 out of the fourteen participants felt the course notes were useful, one felt they were not and one was unsure.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- Great having examples of things
Night time sessions for Urunga would be good- working people can not attend
- Very interesting and informative
- So helpful to me and very sociable- thank you!

Workshop 3: Chooks and weeds

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 17th of April 2012 and was presented by Steve Fripp on Chooks of Coffs Harbour Produce and Saddlery and Carmen Muldoon the Bellingen Council invasive plants officer. The workshop was attended by only 12 people, of which seven completed the evaluation forms. The low response rate was due to the organiser not handing out evaluation forms until the following week.

The organiser commented that the participants loved the “weeds talk: and that more time for discussion of this was required”. Some participants commented that the “chooks” part was too detailed, i.e disease control, adding protein to food that were not necessary. Participants felt that they would have preferred something “in the vain of don’t get overwhelmed about starting out with chickens-there are pretty self explanatory. Facilitators also discussed community environment options.

Organisers feel that meeting fortnightly is going well and is assisting in developing a better group dynamic and people were upset that the next workshop was the last.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 2

Number of females: 5

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%

15 to 24: 0%

25 to 34: 0%

35 to 44: 14%

45 to 54: 28%

Over 55: 57%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
14%	14%	14%	43%	0%	28%	0

Note: Percentage exceeds 100% as several respondents heard about the workshop from multiple sources.

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

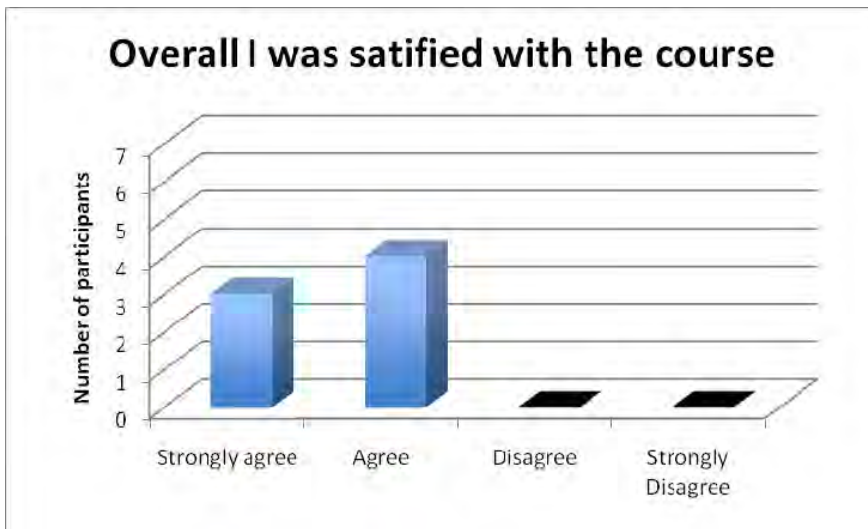
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- Learning more about chooks and what is a weed or not
- Learning about weeds
- Great information
- Valuable contacts
- Learn more about more weeds and how to control them

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.

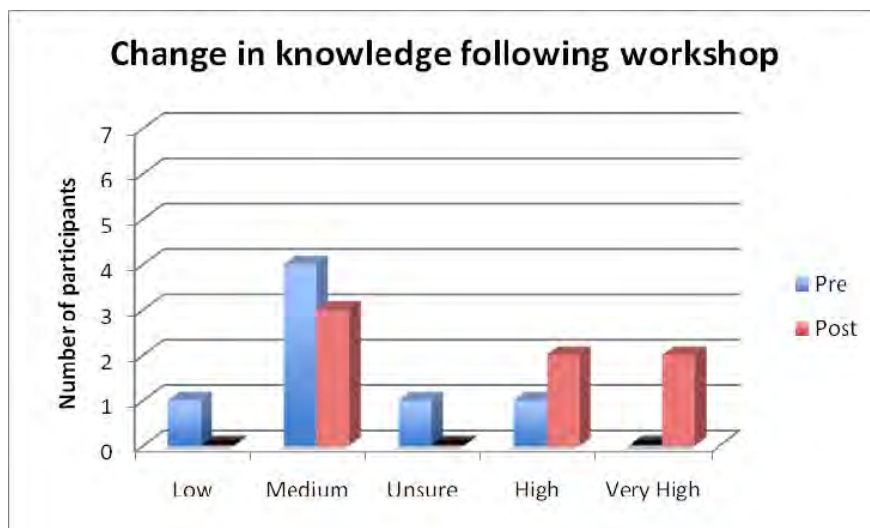


Course notes

All seven participants felt the course notes were useful.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Overall comments

- All very good, would like more
- Would have been nice to have had some samples of the different chicken feeds and grits
- I was very satisfied with and what I learnt about chooks

- More hints on weed extermination
- A free chicken
- The course has been very interesting and informative
- Would have liked a bit more on specific pant weed control- appreciate time limited for this.

Workshop 4: Installing big ticket items: Solar, solar hot water (SHW) and Rainwater tanks

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 1st of May 2012 and was presented by Tony Slade from TAFE Plumbing and Mark McClurg of Self Sufficient Homes. The workshop was attended by eight people, seven of whom completed the evaluation forms.

The organiser notes that the first presenter (Tony Slade) took more than the allocated time despite attempts to keep to schedule, this meant solar was a bit rushed. This was the last workshop of the series. The group decided to use the environment community project money to improve the energy efficiency of the hall including buying a new fridge. The participants were given house signs which they were pleased with and a group photo was taken with the signs. Participants also completed the behaviour change questionnaire.

The participants reported that they enjoyed the program so much they wanted to do further workshops, it was decided that three more elective workshops would run

- Aboriginal interpretation of country
- Love food, hate waste
- Gardening, seed collection and compost.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 2

Number of females: 5

Age of participants (%)

- Under 15: 0%
- 15 to 24: 0%
- 25 to 34: 0%
- 35 to 44: 14%
- 45 to 54: 43%
- Over 55: 43%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
14%	14%	14%	57%	0%	14%	14% Involved in the project

Note: Percentage exceeds 100% as several respondents heard about the workshop from multiple sources.

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

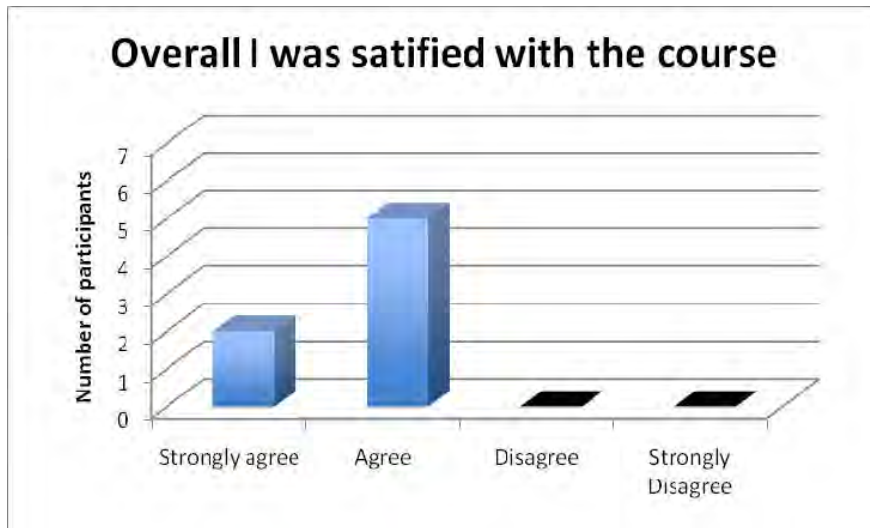
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- Learning about environment
- Learning about rainwater tanks in particular
- Learning information
- Access to experts and their knowledge
- To learn about solar power
- Better understanding of water tanks and systems
- Learn more
- Learn more about solar and water tanks

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.

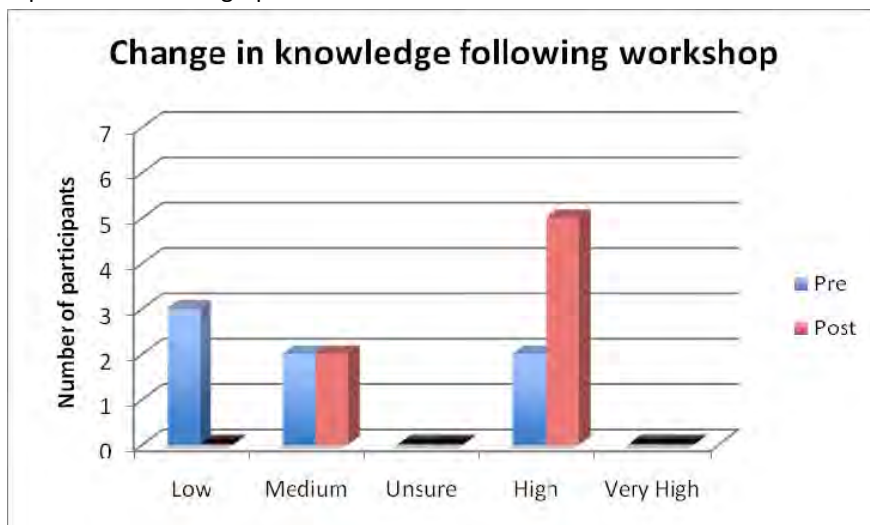


Course notes

All six participants stated that the course notes were useful.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- Water was excellent
- Solar was rushed, ran out of time
- Really helped with my specific household needs and circumstances
- Just great-you learn so much, speaker fantastic- Thanks!

B. Mylestom Lifestyle Results

This section indicates the lifestyle choices that workshop participants were making prior to the workshop. They are laid out under specific sections, each colour-coded

- Energy
- Food
- Cleaning Transport
- Waste
- Biodiversity
- Water

Mylestom demographics for the lifestyle data is in the box to the right. Nine people completed the lifestyle questionnaire at Mylestom.

Demographics						
Are you?						
	homeowner	renter	other			
Number of participants	7	2	0			

How many people live in your household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
Number of participants	3	3	2	1	0	0

Gender		
	male	female
Number of participants	4	6

1 respondent indicated male and female in same questionnaire

Age						
	< 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	over 55
Number of participants	0	0	0	1	6	2

Energy

Electricity consumption								
Cost	\$0-\$100	\$101-\$200	\$201-\$300	\$301-\$400	\$401-\$500	\$501-\$600	\$601-\$700	over \$700
Number of participants	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	2

Hot water service type							
Type	electric storage	electric instant	gas instant	solar	fuel stove	gas	other
Number of Participants	5	2	0	3	0	0	0

Do you have PV?			
	PV Yes	PV No	kWh capacity
Number of participants	0	9	N/A

Greenpower						
	no	< 25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	6	0	1	0	0	0

How many CFLs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	0	1	3	2	3	0

How many LEDs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	6	1	2	0	0	0

How do you heat your home										
	open fire	slow combustion stove	gas heater	gas central heater	hydronic	fan	radiative	convection	reverse cycle air conditioner	other
Number of participants	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	3	1	1

Heating thermostat		
	In winter	n/a
Number of participants	0	5

Air-conditioning		
	yes	no
Number of participants	2	7

Aircon temp								
	In summertime	n/a	17degrees	18 degrees	19 degrees	20 degrees	21 degrees	22+ degrees
Number of participants	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	1

Insulation				
	ceiling	walls	floor	hot water pipes
Number of participants	4	3	0	1

Turn off switches			
	most	some	none
Number of	5	4	0

participants			
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Food

Grow your own			
	fruit	herbs	vegetables
Number of participants	1	5	4

Buy local food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	6	0	3

Buy organic food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	1	1	7

Fair trade food & drink				
	yes	no	sometimes	don't know
Number of participants	0	0	7	2

Vegetarian			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	0	8	1

How many serves of meat per week					
	1to3	3to5	5to7	8to10	10+
Number of participants	0	3	5	0	0

Cleaning

Cleaning products currently use				
	store bought chemical products	store bought "enviro friendly" products	non-toxic cleaning products	Other
Number of participants	3	4	4	2

Transport

Average car km travel week					
	0-100km	101-200km	201-300km	301-400km	400+ km
Number of participants	1	2	1	0	2

Average car fuel consumption						
	7 L	8L	9L	10L	Over 10L	Don't Know
Number of participants	1	0	1	1	1	4

Carpool			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	1	3	2

Carbon offset air travel				
	most	some	none	don't know
Number of participants	2	0	1	4

Do you walk					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	4	2	1	1	1

Do you cycle					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	0	1	0	1	7

Waste

Green waste					
	home compost	home worm farm	council green waste	rubbish bin	other
Number of participants	2	1	8	1	0

Sort waste for recycling		
	yes	no
Number of participants	9	0

Biodiversity

Knowledge of native plants										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0

Grow native plants			
	yes	no	some
Number of participants	0	0	3

Involved with bush regeneration		
	yes	no
Number of participants	0	4

Water

Rainwater tank			Use rainwater for						Capacity		
	yes	no	garden	laundry	kitche n	toilet	bathroom	other	Capacity under 5000	Capacity 5000- 10000	Capacity over 10000
Number of participants	2	7	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	0

Water saving devices installed									
	half flush toilet	low flo shower head	tap aerator kitchen	tap aerator bathroom	trigger nozzle garden	weight regulator toilet	washing machine water efficient	grey water reuse	other
Number of participants	8	4	4	4	4	1	5	2	0

C. Behaviour Change

This section indicates the actual and intended behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops at Mylestom

With regard to the Healthy Homes program, what are the three most important things you gained?

2

- Weed identifying
- Solar
- The ability to be able to make good decisions about the environment.
- How to cut electricity costs
- Information on how to reduce bills
- Information on how to use less chemicals
- Knowledge (locally specific)
- Confidence to make changes (informed changes)
- Water tank knowledge
- Wise was told "BLEACH IS BAD"
- Knowledge on treating the environment better
- Knowledge on saving energy
- Saving on electricity bills
- Finding different types of weeds in my garden*
- Information on how to find out more information*
- Contact to local experts for future help*
- Free Eco button*

Changes in behaviour

Participants were asked "What changes have you made/will you make as a result of these workshops – please tick those you have done as a result of the program and those you intend to do – if it is not applicable to your situation tick the n/a column and anything you had already done before the workshops leave the boxes blank."

Energy

Changed old incandescent light globes to CFLs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	1	1

Changed old incandescent light globes to LEDs			

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	5	1

Turn standby power off at the power point

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	3	0

Change thermostat on heaters (18-20°C)

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	7

Change thermostat on air conditioners (23-26°C)

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	6

Set thermostat for hot water service to 60°C

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	4

Set temperature of fridge to 5°C

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	0	1

Set temperature of freezer for -15 °C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	0	1

Installed or topped up house insulation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	4

Turn off bar fridge or 2nd fridge			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	3

Switched to “green power” through your electricity supplier or increased your % of greenpower.			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	1	2

Installed solar PV electricity			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed solar hot water system			
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	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Other changes

Use less water, intend to install water tank, turn off lights when not using, will get water pipe hammer fixed, will get leaf gutter guard

Checked appliances, corrected some appliances, used the free gift straight away

Cleaning

Have cleaned out the cupboards of all store bought chemical cleaning products			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	5	0

Use Vinegar			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	7	0	0

Use bicarbonate soda			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	7	0	0

Use borax			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	1

Use clove oil			
	Have	Intend	n/a

	done	to do	
Number of participants	5	0	1

Use Cloudy ammonia			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	1

Use Tea tree oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	1	0

Use Methylated spirits			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Use liquid soap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	0	0

Use Essential oils			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	4	2	0
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Use microfibre cloths			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	1	0

Other Changes

- Use squeegee on bathroom glass & tiles*
- Loved the chart to help give solutions*
- Removed sprays, reduced no. of cleaning products*
- Using less chemicals*

Garden

Grow your own fruit			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	4	0

Grow your own herbs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	0	0

Grow your own vegetables			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	3	0

Plant indigenous plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	2

Identified weeds in your garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Remove weeds			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	2	0

Built a no dig food garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	1

Mulch your plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	0	0

Started a worm farm			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	5	0

Installed and using a compost bin/heap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	2	0

Other changes

*Council out to identify what is a weed (such a help)
 Looked at removing weeds, replanting natives
 Rains stopped*

Big Ticket Items

Started a savings account for renewable energy on my house			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	0

Got a quote for solar power installation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	1	0

Got a quote for solar hot water installation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	1

Got a quote for a rainwater tank			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	3	2

Have installed solar power (electricity)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	0

Have installed solar hot water			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	2	1

Have installed rainwater tank(s)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	1

Have installed gas instantaneous hot water service			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	1

Other Changes

Love to upgrade solar power, install another rainwater tank

Shopping

There were no recorded responses to this section.

Food

There were no recorded responses to this section.

Results of these changes

Have you seen any results from these changes so far? What are they?

- Waiting to see my next elect bill
- Reduction in power bills, reduction in cleaning costs, reduction in water bills
- I am wiser about choices I make, hopefully saving \$ and time.
- Awareness of options available
- Not yet
- Using less chemical products for cleaning
- Not yet, too soon.

What results do you expect to see in the future?

- Lower bills
- More of same (of above)
- Money savings, better and healthier environment for family, save resources,
- Enjoy living environment more
- Lower power bill, own grown food, cleaner water
- No chemical products in the house if possible. Rainwater tanks installed.
- Cheaper electricity bills, more home grown produce.

What's stopping you from making changes? Can you list or describe any barriers?

- None
- No cartilage in right knee unable to do to much physical work
- Money
- Costs, timing, adapting to my lifestyle and conditions
- Cost of rainwater tanks
- Time and money.

Any other comments?

- Just a fantastic 4 sessions. Elle has been a wonderful presenter.
- Thank you. Would like to see more. Thanks again
- Thank you, I learn't a lot
- Great workshops, good presenters, interesting topics
- Really enjoyable courses, packed with information at every level by knowledgeable and friendly people.

Our Living Coast Healthy Homes Report Urunga Workshops

Introduction

Healthy Homes workshops were held at Urunga between November 2011 and June 2012. This report covers four workshops held in Urunga between March 2012 and June 2012. All workshops are evaluated independently below. The Workshops are:

- Energy Efficiency
- Green Cleaning and Detox Your Home
- Weeds and Chooks
- Big Ticket Items

In addition, participants completed lifestyle and behaviour data questionnaires and these are reported below.

Key Findings Urunga Healthy Homes

The data below from all sources indicates that in Urunga:

- Forty people in total attended the workshops with attendance remaining at a fairly constant level across the series of workshops.
- Across this series of workshops most people found out about them via posters and notices. People did not seem to use the internet for information in Urunga.
- All four workshops met participant's expectations. Positive responses were received about the style of the workshops:
 - *Very pleased I attended, look forward to the other sessions*
 - *Fantastic, thank you!*
- Participant's reported significant levels of knowledge growth at each workshops, although slightly less so in the Big Ticket Items Workshop than the others.
- With regard to lifestyle issues:
 - Seven people completed the questionnaire
 - Average expenditure on energy was \$266 per household per quarter. No household spent more than 401 to \$500 per quarter. This is quite a low spend compared to other Healthy Homes workshop locations.
 - One respondent had gas and one had solar hot water. The rest were electric.
 - Only one participant had greenpower
 - Few CFLS and LEDs were used for lighting
 - Only two respondents had air conditioning and one used this for heating as well as cooling.
 - Insulation was only in ceilings for 75% of respondents and few varied thermostats on any appliances.

- While people purchased food locally, they did not buy organic food and seemed no to be aware of 'fair trade' products.
 - There was some use of non-toxic cleaning products [30%] and most purchased products labeled as 'environmentally friendly.'
 - Car travel was quite limited –average of 100km per household per week. Very little evidence of car pooling however.
 - Walking was a popular recreational pursuit but no one in this group cycled regularly.
 - Two households had rainwater tanks and all had low flush toilets.
- With regard to behaviour 5 people/households indicated that as a result of the workshop they:
 - Had changed to CFLs [2] or intend to [2]. One has also changed to LEDs already.
 - Now turn off standby power at the power point [3] or intend to [2].
 - Set thermostats for hot water [2], intend to [2]
 - Set temperature of fridge and freezer appropriately – over 80%.
 - All have moved to use natural cleaning products – vinegar and bi-carb. All now use microfibre cloths.
 - More indigenous plants planted, weeds removed and mulching.
 - 30% are moving towards big ticket purchase by getting quotes for solar hot water etc.
 - The following quotes summarise some changes made:
 - *Changed cleaning products, which actually work better and smell better.*
 - *Working on gardening and removing weeds.*
 - *Switching power off at wall when not in use*
 - *Smaller lower power bill*
 - *Cleaning using environmentally friendly products - better for my health.*
 - *Use the community garden for organic food - support those gardens*
 - *Less erosion in the garden - all the paths mulched.*

Workshop 1: Energy efficiency

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 14th of March 2012 and was presented by Art Drayton, Secretary of the Alternative Technology Association Coffs Harbour. There were eight participants attending the workshop, seven of whom completed the evaluation forms. The group was held during the day and attracted an older demographic than other Healthy Homes workshop series. Organisers commented that the workshop was well received though attendance was lower than was hoped for as a partnership was formed with the local Neighborhood Centre who advertised the workshop widely through their newsletters, newspaper etc.

Participants were also given a power meter to share among the group.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 1

Number of females: 6

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%

15 to 24: 0%

25 to 34: 0%

35 to 44: 14%

45 to 54: 28%

Over 55: 57%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
0%	28%	0%	0%	0%	0%	72% Neighborhood Centre (4) Library (1)

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

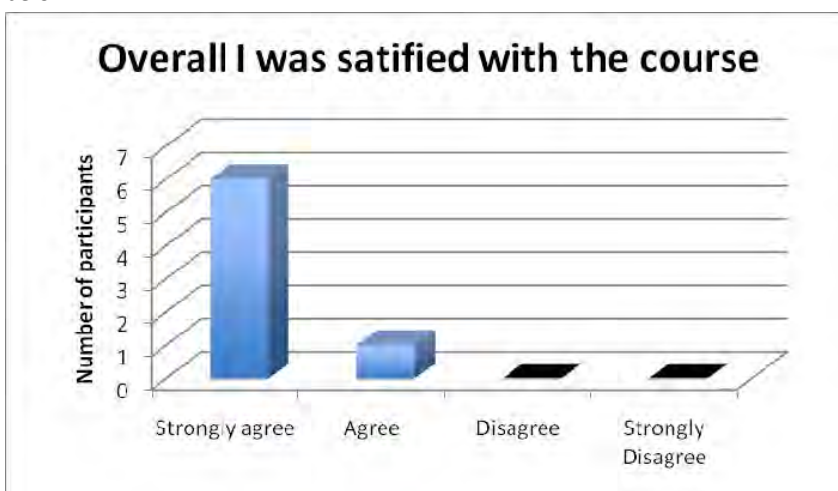
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. The responses were as follows:

- To learn how to save money on power bills
- Learn ways to reduce energy consumption
- To live greener
- Information, opportunity to ask questions

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.

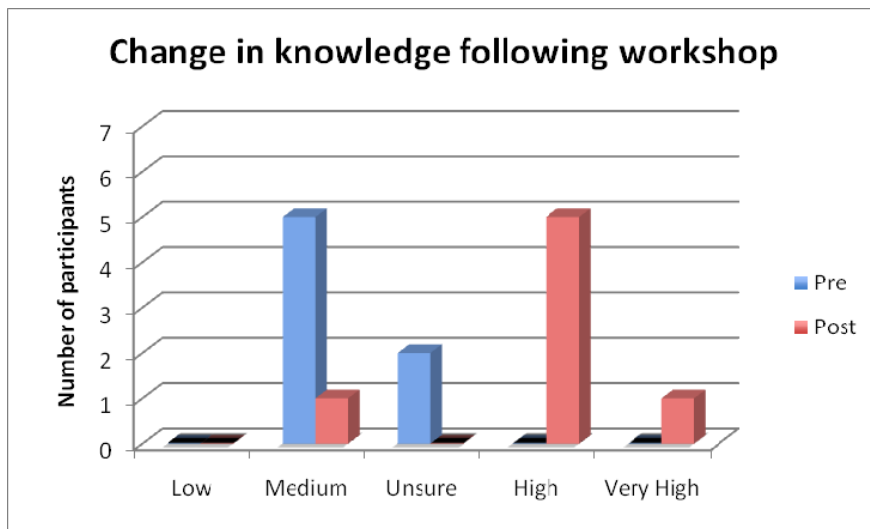


Course notes

All seven participants stated that the course notes were useful.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- *Very pleased I attended, look forward to the other sessions*
- Thanks

Workshop 2: Green Cleaning and Detox your Home

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 18th of February 2012 at the Urunga Neighbourhood Centre Centre. It was presented by Gwenn Hanna of Building Wisdom. Nine people attended the workshop, including one new person and all completed the evaluation forms. The workshop was very well received and participants, in particular liked the poster handout that the organiser had got from a Coffs Shop.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 1

Number of females: 8

Age of participants (%)

- Under 15: 0%
- 15 to 24: 0%
- 25 to 34: 0%
- 35 to 44: 22%
- 45 to 54: 11%
- Over 55: 67%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
11%	22%	0%	0%	0%	0%	67% Neighbourhood centre Library (3)

One person did not respond

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

Our Living Coast Evaluation – Supplementary Report

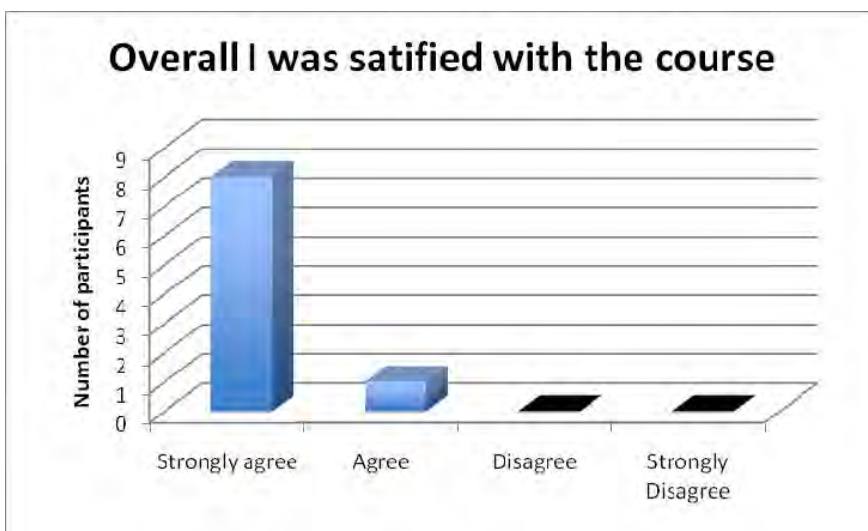
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- Learn tips for “natural” cleaning
- Learn how to live more healthily at home
- I wasn’t sure what to expect but I really enjoyed it.
- To learn how to use less chemicals.

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.

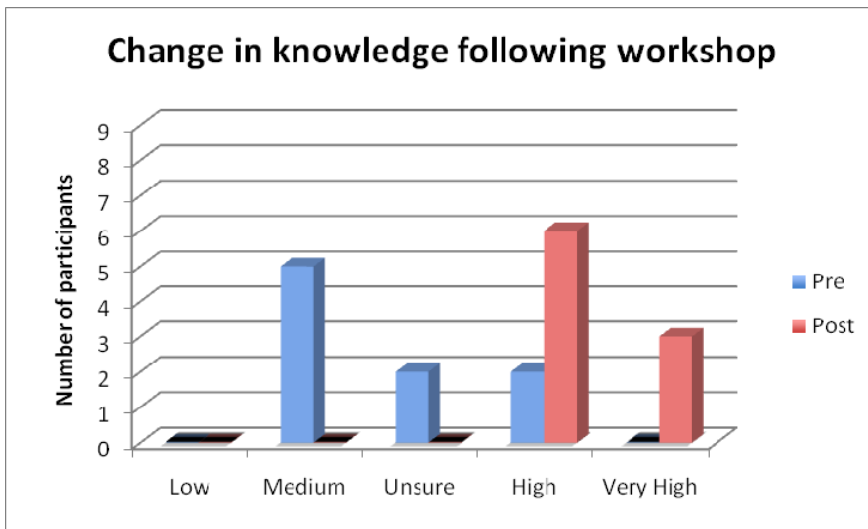


Course notes

All nine participants stated that the course notes were useful.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- Enjoyed the session greatly
- Great!!
- Thank you for a great course!
- Would like further information on making workplaces safer/cleaner/greener, in particular preschool environments.

Workshop 3: Weeds and Chooks.

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 9th of May 2012 and was presented by Steve Frupp of Coffs Harbour Produce and Saddlery and Carmen Muldoon, Bellingen Council Invasive plants officer. It was attended by twelve people of whom ten completed the evaluation form. Four were new to the workshops having not previously participated in session one or two.

Comments from the organizers describe that positive feedback was given during the workshop and there was interest in doing further workshops. Samples of weeds passed around to assist participants in identification.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 0

Number of females: 10

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%
 15 to 24: 0%
 25 to 34: 0%
 35 to 44: 30%
 45 to 54: 40%
 Over 55: 30%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
20%	40%	0%	0%	0%	20%	30% Library Neighbourhood centre

Note total exceeds 100% as one participant ticked more than one response.

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

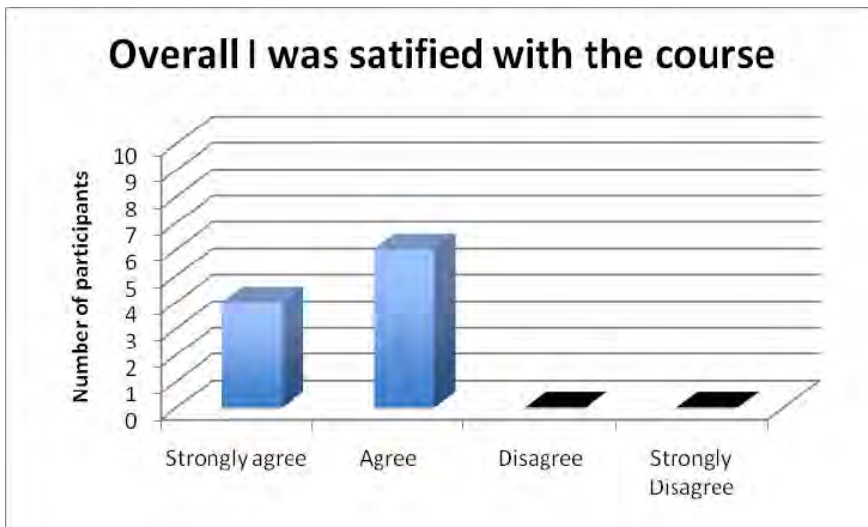
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- Good range of general info and access to more if needed
- To find out about raising chicken and gardening
- Hoping to learn about gardening/plants and owning chooks
- I wasn't sure what to expect but I had attend another session and found it excellent
- Growing vegetables and weed control without chemicals
- Learn about weeds

Satisfaction with the Workshop

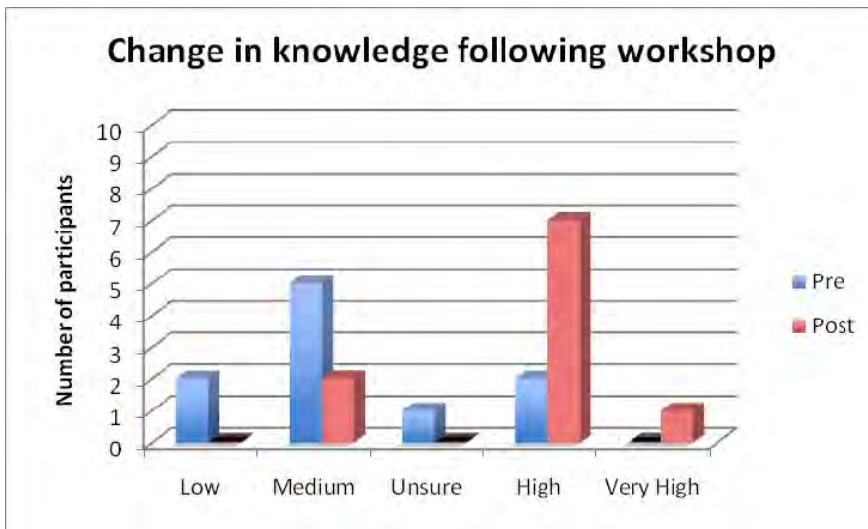
Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; "overall I was satisfied with the course". The results are represented on the graph below.



Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- Presenters should have extra handouts available for last minute extra attendees or if we want to take some home for friends
- It's good
- I am very happy with today's session and found it extremely informative- thank you so much
- Fantastic, thank you!

Workshop 4: Installing big ticket items: Solar, solar hot water (SHW) and Rainwater tanks

Introduction

This workshop was held on 6th of June 2012 and was presented by Tony Slade from TAFE Plumbing and Mark McClurg of Self Sufficient Homes. The workshop was attended by 7 people, all of whom completed the evaluation forms. There were two apologies for this session due to prior commitments.

This was the last workshop of the Urunga series and it was decided to do a community project of solar on Urunga Neighbourhood centre.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 0

Number of females: 7

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%
 15 to 24: 0%
 25 to 34: 0%
 35 to 44: 29%
 45 to 54: 29%
 Over 55: 42%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
14%	29%	0%	0%	0%	14%	29% Course Library

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

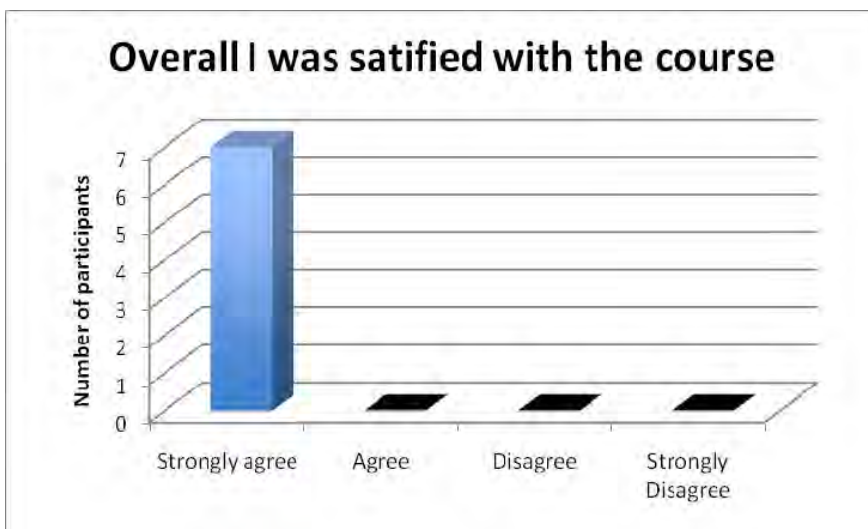
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- That I would be more informed about these products
- To have a brief background and time to ask questions
- To learn more about solar and water tanks (3)
- Good clean info

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Overall satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.

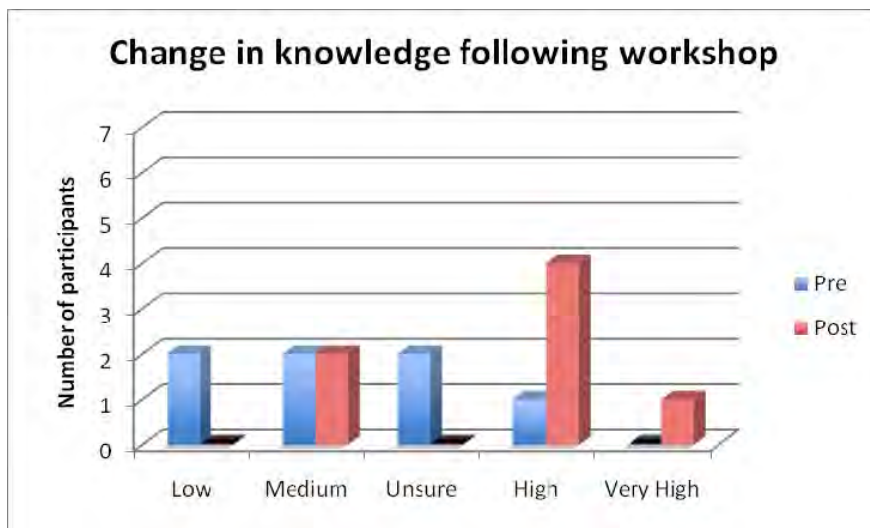


Course notes

All seven participants stated that the course notes were clear and informative.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- Great concept to hold these sessions-thank you
- Thank you thoroughly enjoyed class
- Solar could be one workshop and water another workshop

B. Urunga Lifestyle Results

This section indicates the lifestyle choices that workshop participants were making prior to the workshop. They are laid out under specific sections, each colour-coded

- Energy
- Food
- Cleaning Transport
- Waste
- Biodiversity
- Water

Urunga demographics for the lifestyle data is in the box to the right. Seven people completed the lifestyle questionnaire at Urunga.

Demographics						
Are you?						
	homeowner	renter	other			
Number of participants	4	2	1			

How many people live in your household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
Number of participants	4	3	1	0	0	0

Gender		
	male	female
Number of participants	1	6

Age						
	< 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	over 55
Number of participants	0	0	0	1	5	1

Energy

Electricity consumption								
Cost	\$0-\$100	\$101-\$200	\$201-\$300	\$301-\$400	\$401-\$500	\$501-\$600	\$601-\$700	over \$700
Number of participants	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	0

NB: Average: \$266 per household
 One participant did not respond

Hot water service type							
Type	electric storage	electric instant	gas instant	solar	fuel stove	gas	other
Number of Participants	4	1	0	1	0	1	0

Do you have PV?			
	PV Yes	PV No	kWh capacity
Number of participants	1	6	3

Greenpower						
	no	< 25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	6	0	1	0	0	0

How many CFLs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	10	2	3	1	0	1

How many LEDs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	7	0	0	0	0	0

How do you heat your home

	open fire	slow combustion stove	gas heater	gas central heater	hydronic	fan	radiative	convection	reverse cycle air conditioner	other
Number of participants	0	1	0	0	0	4	2	1	1	0

Heating thermostat

	In winter	n/a
Number of participants	0	6

Air-conditioning

	yes	no
Number of participants	2	5

Aircon temp

	In summertime	n/a	17degrees	18 degrees	19 degrees	20 degrees	21 degrees	22 degrees
Number of participants	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	1

Insulation

	ceiling	walls	floor	hot water pipes
Number of participants	6	2	0	0

Turn off switches

	most	some	none
Number of participants	5	2	0

Food

Grow your own			
	fruit	herbs	vegetables
Number of participants	0	11	2

Buy local food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	6	0	1

Buy organic food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	1	4	2

Fair trade food & drink				
	yes	no	sometimes	don't know
Number of participants	0	3	2	2

Vegetarian			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	1	4	2

How many serves of meat per week

	1to3	3to5	5to7	8to10	10+
Number of participants	2	2	2	0	0

Cleaning

Cleaning products currently use				
	store bought chemical products	store bought "enviro friendly" products	non-toxic cleaning products	Other
Number of participants	2	5	3	1

Transport

Average car km travel week					
	0-100km	101-200km	201-300km	301-400km	400+ km
Number of participants	3	1	1	0	0

Average =100k per household

Not answered by all respondents

Carpool			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	0	3	2

Carbon offset air travel				
	most	some	none	don't know
Number of participants	0	1	3	1

Do you walk

	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	3	2	1	0	0

Do you cycle					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	0	0	0	2	4

Waste

Green waste					
	home compost	home worm farm	council green waste	rubbish bin	other
Number of participants	2	2	5	1	1 mulch

Sort waste for recycling		
	yes	no
Number of participants	6	0

Biodiversity

Knowledge of native plants										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0

Grow native plants			
	yes	no	some

Number of participants	3	2	2
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Involved with bush regeneration		
	yes	no
Number of participants	2	5

Water

Rainwater tank			Use rainwater for						Capacity		
	yes	no	garden	laundry	kitche n	toilet	bathroom	other	Capacity under 5000	Capacity 5000- 10000	Capacity over 10000
Number of participants	2	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0

Water saving devices installed									
	half flush toilet	low flo shower head	tap aerator kitchen	tap aerator bathroom	trigger nozzle garden	weight regulator toilet	washing machine water efficient	grey water reuse	other
Number of participants	7	4	0	0	1	0	4	0	0

C. Behaviour Change

This section indicates the actual and intended behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops at Urunga.

With regard to the Healthy Homes program, what are the three most important things you gained?

- How to save energy in home
- How to save on water usage
- Knowledge
- Networking
- More knowledge
- More understanding
- Awareness of different issues with some background to follow up on
- An idea of other people in the community who might be interested in sustainability
- Save chemicals in the home
- Really enjoyed finding out more about solar power & solar hot water
- It was great to use the power usage meter & see how my electricity is used
- Increased my knowledge re saving power
- Learnt how damaging chemical cleaning agents can be
- Great ideas to use in my own life/home
- More ideas to put into practice
- A chance to win solar panels or hot water system
- Environment of plants, water etc
- The green cleaning workshop was great, have changed my cleaning habits
- Not to take on face value products labelled "healthy" "pure" "beneficial" etc!

Changes in behaviour

Participants were asked “What changes have you made/will you make as a result of these workshops – please tick those you have done as a result of the program and those you intend to do – if it is not applicable to your situation tick the n/a column and anything you had already done before the workshops leave the boxes blank.”

Energy

Changed old incandescent light globes to CFLs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	2	0

Changed old incandescent light globes to LEDs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	3	1

Turn standby power off at the power point			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	2	0

Change thermostat on heaters (18-20°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	3

Change thermostat on air conditioners (23-26°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	2	5

Set thermostat for hot water service to 60°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	2	0

Set temperature of fridge to 5°C			
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	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	1	0

Set temperature of freezer for -15 °C

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	1	1

Installed or topped up house insulation

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	3

Turn off bar fridge or 2nd fridge

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	1	5

Switched to “green power” through your electricity supplier or increased your % of greenpower.

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	2	3

Installed solar PV electricity

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed solar hot water system			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Cleaning

Have cleaned out the cupboards of all store bought chemical cleaning products			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	4	1

Use Vinegar			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	0	0

Use bicarbonate soda			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	7	0	0

Use borax			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Use Clove oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Use Cloudy ammonia			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	0

Use Tea tree oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	0	0

Use Methylated spirits			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Use Liquid Soap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	0	0

Use Essential oils			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	1	0

Use microfibre cloths			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	0	0

Other Changes

- Stainless steel water bottle
- Keeping open to ideas
- Looked at labels more carefully, washed hands more often.
- Frightened of frying pan now.
- Making own laundry detergent

Garden

Grow your own fruit			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	1	2

Grow your own herbs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	1	0

Grow your own vegetables			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	2

Plant indigenous plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	4	1	0
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Identified weeds in your garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Remove weeds			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	2	0

Built a no dig food garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	2	2

Mulch your plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	2	0

Started a worm farm			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	4

Installed and using a compost bin/heap			
---	--	--	--

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	2

Big Ticket Items

Started a savings account for renewable energy on my house

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	1	3

Got a quote for solar power installation

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	2	3

Got a quote for solar hot water installation

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	2	3

Got a quote for a rainwater tank

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	1	3

Have installed solar power (electricity)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	3

Have installed solar hot water			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	4

Have installed rainwater tank(s)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	1	0

Have installed gas instantaneous hot water service			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	1	4

Other changes

- Am house-sitting so a bit hard
- Rental- bit awkward
- Checked toilets for leaks, put on list: plumber needed.

Shopping: There were no recorded responses to this section.

Food: There were no recorded responses to this section.

Results of these changes

Have you seen any results from these changes so far? What are they?

- Changed cleaning products, which actually work better and smell better.
- Working on gardening & removing weeds.
- Switching power off at wall when not in use
- Smaller lower bill
- Cleaning using environmentally friendly products - better for my health.
- Use the community garden for organic food - support those gardens
- Non-toxic products working
- Less erosion in the garden - all the paths mulched Ele
- Less expensive cleaners
- Feel happier that I'm using fewer chemicals at home.
- Am looking into more eco-friendly things to do.
- It has made me more green aware

What results do you expect to see in the future?

- Save money and better for family as well as environment. No results as yet.
- Hopefully save money on next power bill
- Same with more ideas
- A cleaner, happier environment
- A reduction in electric use if not costs (always rising)
- To continue to be more environmentally aware. To pass good green living onto my child

What's stopping you from making changes? Can you list or describe any barriers?

- Just time will get around to doing the above especially the garden/compost etc
- Am a house-sitter so can't change major things in peoples houses
- Rental property
- Cost
- Renting from Housing Dept
- Finance is an issue in regard to installing solar power
- House is already insulated and have solar hot water. Was already turning off power points. Many of my lights are tubular fluorescent and I use them economically and would be too expensive to change

Any other comments

Nil

Demographics for behaviour data

Gender

	Male	Female
Number of participants	0	7

Age

	Under 15	15-24	25-34	35 - 44	45 – 55	Over 55
Number of participants	0	0	0	1	2	4

Our Living Coast Healthy Homes Report Sawtell Workshops

Introduction

Healthy Homes workshops were held between November 2011 and June 2012. This report covers six workshops held in Sawtell between November 2011 and May 2012. All workshops are evaluated independently below.

The organiser notes that numbers attending the Sawtell workshops have been consistently down compared with early 2011 Workshops however, some participants had attended all workshops and have formed a bond.

The six workshops held in Sawtell were:

- No-dig Gardening and Compost
- Green Cleaning and Detox your Home
- Indigenous Interpretation of Country- Bongil Bongil Creek Canoe Trip.
- Installing Big Ticket Items
- Raising 'eggsellent' chickens and identifying weeds
- Ethical Shopping

All workshops are evaluated independently below.

In addition, participants completed lifestyle and behaviour data questionnaires and these are reported below.

Key Findings Sawtell Healthy Homes

The data below from all sources indicates that in Sawtell:

- 56 people attended this six workshop series. Given the amount of promotion this number was somewhat disappointing, although, the same people kept attending.
- Participants found out about the workshop from a number of sources and no one promotional mechanism stood out in Sawtell.
- Workshops tended to attract a younger demographic in Sawtell than elsewhere.
- In all workshops expectations were well met:
 - *To learn about no dig gardening methods*
 - *To learn about composting*
 - *Lots of info on chooks and examples of weeds and ways of removing weeds*
 - *To find out how to make better shopping decisions.*
- Participants were very positive about the quality of the workshops.
- In every workshop there were significant improvements in knowledge reported as a result of the workshop.
- With regard to lifestyle issues raised by participants, it is noted that:
 - Fifteen people provided lifestyle data, but not all completed each question.

- Most, almost 60% were aged in the 35 to 44 bracket.
 - Very limited feedback was provided about electricity costs.
 - Four respondents had solar hot water, one had gas and the remainder had electric storage systems.
 - Five respondents had PV cells.
 - 70% paid for greenpower at some level.
 - All used CFLs and over 50% of respondents used them in most lights. 40% used LEDs.
 - Three had air conditioners and the remainder had a number of methods of home heating, including slow combustion stove, and gas. Most used electricity however.
 - Few varied the thermostats on any product.
 - Most had insulation of some sort.
 - Most grew food at home, but few bought locally grown food or bought organic or fair trade food.
 - About 50% used non-toxic cleaning products
 - Cars are used but sparingly with most driving less than 100km per week.
 - Walking is a favoured recreation with over 50% walking daily.
 - People also cycle, three daily and three weekly; some less often than this.
 - People are responsible about their waste, 5 people compost at home, 4 have a worm farm and 6 use the Council's organics collection service. Others have chickens etc.
 - The level of interest in native plants and animals is varied., however 11 participants grow natives at home.
 - Two have water tanks.
 - Most have half flush toilets aerators on taps etc.
- With regard to behaviour people indicated that as a result of the workshops that:
 - Some had made changes to their management of electricity, switches off, reduced use of standby on computers etc. Few had changed thermostat settings etc.
 - Two have switched to greenpower.
 - Over 30% had switched to natural cleaning products, or intend to.
 - Over 20% were making changes in the garden to grow their own food, mulch or remove weeds.
 - Two more have started composting and worm farming.
 - A small number have got quotes for large energy/water saving appliances.
 - In general people have:
 - *Joined small community groups and friends to help with food, gardening etc.*
 - *Returned to more environmental thinking.*
 - *Changed practices in regard to saving power.*
 - *Commitment and preparation to home growing food*
 - *Use less chemicals for cleaning, easier to clean.*

Workshop 1: No-dig Gardening and Compost

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 12th of November 2011 and was presented by David Wilson of Coffs Regional Organic Producers Association. The workshop was held at the private garden of 2 of the participants and was well attended with 16 people participating, all of whom completed the evaluation form.

The session included practical aspects, building a no-dig garden and compost heap, though it was felt by the organizers that perhaps both activities could have been more involving and engaging of participants, though this did not seem to be borne out in the comments made by those responding to the evaluation. Native tropical plants were also given away to those participating.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 8

Number of females: 9

Note: 1 form was completed by both a male and a female.

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%

15 to 24: 0%

25 to 34: 12.5%

35 to 44: 69%

45 to 54: 12.5%

Over 55: 12.5%

Note: Percentage exceeds 100% as one form was completed by 2 participants in the same (over 55) age bracket.

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
12.5%	12.5%	0%	25%	0%	31%	25% Email

Note: Percentage exceeds 100% as one participant ticked multiple options

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



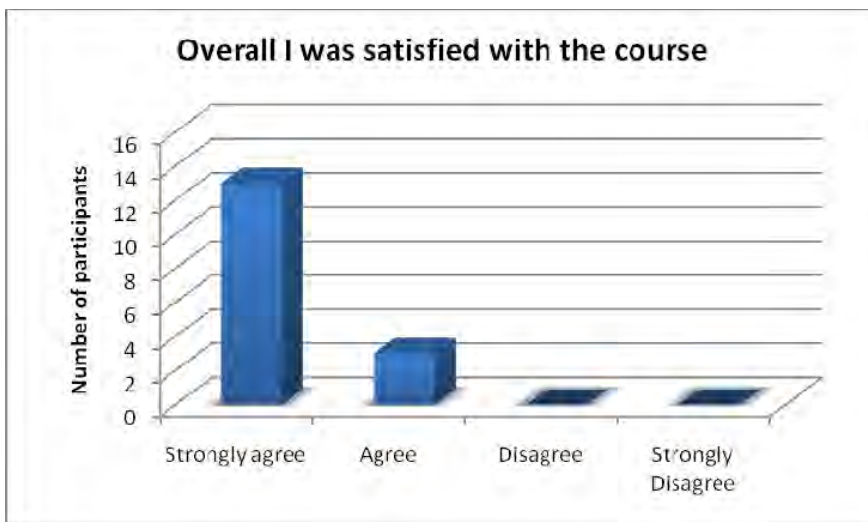
Comments on expectations:

Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- *Just talking, liked the demo.*
- *Learn more about no dig gardening.*
- *Confirm my previous knowledge but also add to it and blow away any myths.*
- *Thought I'd learn something about gardening.*
- *More info on "no dig" and compost and it was great.*
- *We didn't know what to expect.*
- *Gain more enthusiasm and tips to redo home food garden.*
- *Looking at someone's vege garden.*
- *How to build a garden and compost heap.*
- *Seen David before, always good value.*
- *To meet people with common interests- learn new things.*
- *Learn new ideas for vegetable gardening.*
- *To learn about no dig gardening methods*
- *To learn about composting.*

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; "overall I was satisfied with the course". The results are represented on the graph below.

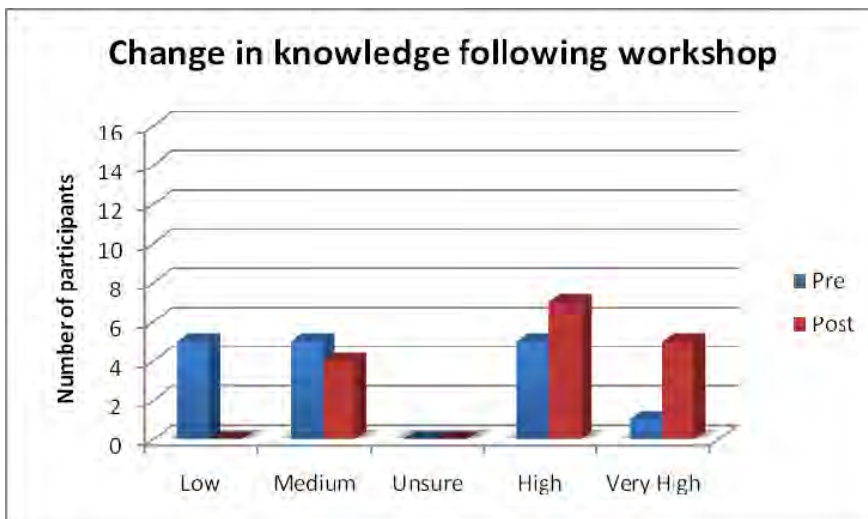


Course notes

Fourteen of the sixteen participants stated that the course notes were useful. The remaining two felt they were not sure if they were useful or not.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- *Thanks! Would be interested in much more. Thanks David, very useful. Excellent presentation from David and Cropo. Nice afternoon tea.*
- *Would love to know more about organic pest control.*
- *Very informative.*
- *Well done Elle, well done.*
- *Mind blowing information from David- has changed my view on gardening food crops. Pest control in the garden.*

Workshop 2: Green Cleaning and Detox your Home

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 13th of December 2011 and was presented by Gwenn Hanna of Building Wisdom. The workshop was attended by only 7 people, which the organiser speculates may have been due to the date being during the busy festive period. Participants were given an option to change the date however did not choose to postpone. All seven participants completed the evaluation form.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 3

Number of females: 4

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%

15 to 24: 0%

25 to 34: 0%

35 to 44: 71%

45 to 54: 29%

Over 55: 0%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
0%	14%	0%	43%	0%	14%	29% Email, Elle

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



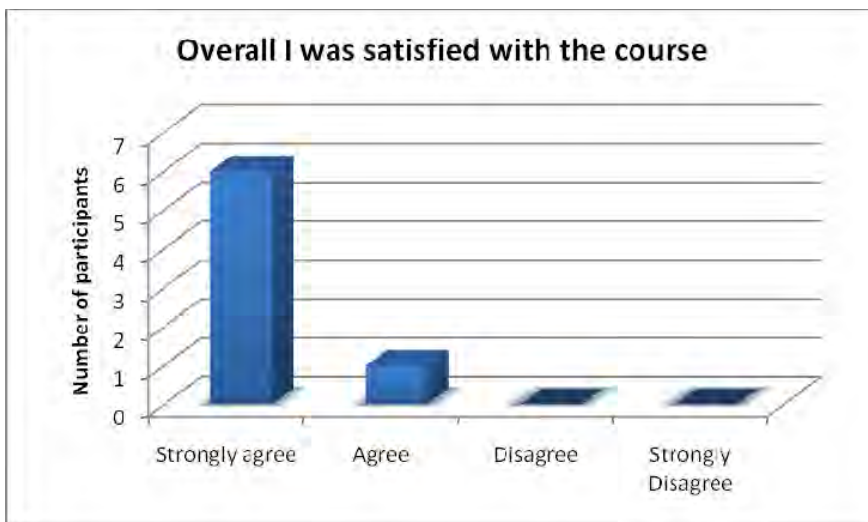
Comments on expectations:

Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- *Cleaning solutions only.*
- *Increase knowledge.*
- *To learn how I can change my practices and have a healthier home.*
- *Update knowledge on chemicals to be avoided.*
- *To find out alternatives for cleaning. Great notes/slides, presentation.*

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; "overall I was satisfied with the course". The results are represented on the graph below.

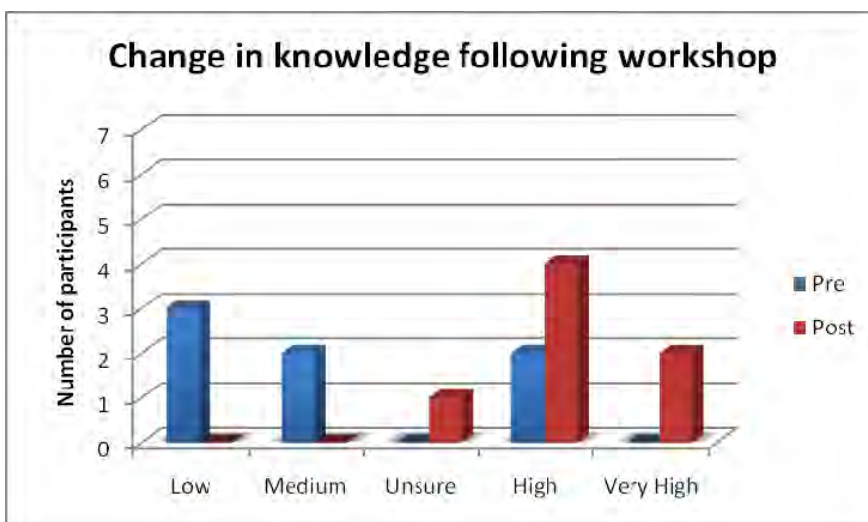


Course notes

Six of the seven participants stated that the course notes were useful. The remaining one felt they were not sure if they were useful or not.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- *Gwen presented well in an informative, easy manner. Learnt a great deal on the topic- Thank you.*
- *Fantastic presentation-much food for thought!*

- *Great!*
- *Thank you Gwen for an informative talk.*

Workshop 3: Indigenous Interpretation of Country- Bongil Bongil Creek Canoe Trip.

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 21st of January 2012 and was presented by Mark Flanders, The Gumbayngirr cultural interpreter from National Parks and Wildlife. The workshop was attended by eleven people including people from Sawtell Heights who were the original target group as well as people from Nambucca and others who had not done a workshop but accessed information about the trip through the e-newsletter. All eleven participants completed the evaluation form.

Unfortunately four participants who had booked on the tour cancelled with minimal notice and left messages on the organizers work phone not mobile so places were unable to be offered to others. Another similar workshop is planned for Urunga, Mylestom and Sawtell combined for those who missed out.

Comments from the organizers describe the workshop as very enjoyable and commented the “it was great to get out into the environment and do a very active workshop” on a beautiful sunny day. The organiser also commented that this was an expensive workshop to fun due primarily to it being on a Saturday. This day was chosen, as it was the only day that participants indicated they would be able to come. It was deemed important due to the need to include the issue of respect to and interpretation of country by Gumbayngirr People. Savings had also been made in other areas.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 4

Number of females: 7

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%

15 to 24: 0%

25 to 34: 55%

35 to 44: 9%

45 to 54: 18%

Over 55: 18%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
0%	0%	0%	27%	0%	36%	36%
						Email, Healthy homes session Work Elle

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

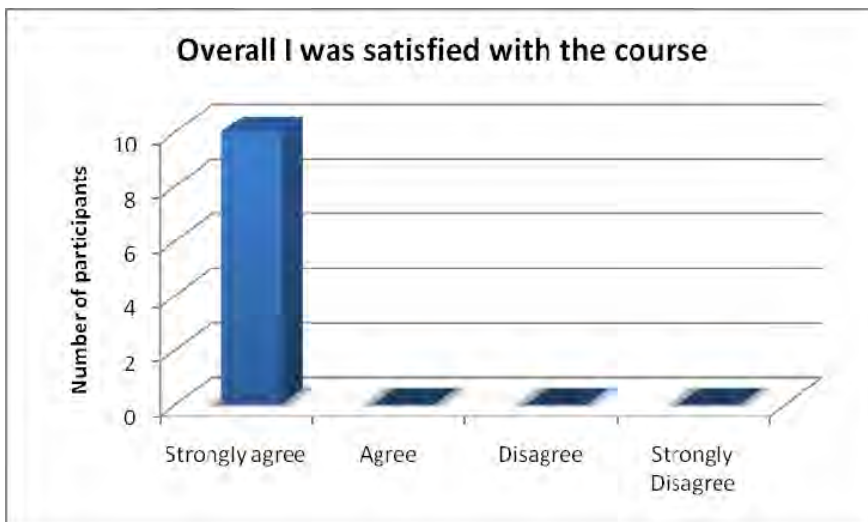
Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- *To see another creek in our area.*
- *To get rained on! Learn about Aboriginal culture of area and bush food.*
- *None-other than to spend time on the Creek in the company of Indigenous people.*
- *Learn more about our local Aboriginal culture and see areas non seen before.*
- *To learn about Bonville Creek and Indigenous aspects of it. To learn about ht estuary environment conservation and sustainability of our waterways.*
- *Get more understanding of Aboriginal culture through estuary management.*

- *Great tour, fabulous tour guide.*
- *Appreciation of river systems and aspects of Aboriginal culture.*

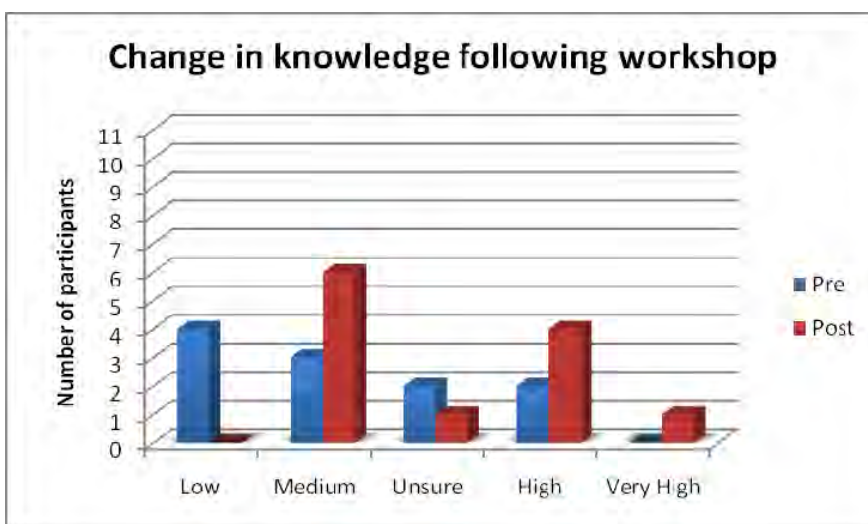
Satisfaction with the Workshop

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.



Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- *Any bush tucker tours?*
- *Thank you.*
- *Mark and Jade were excellent guides, sharing knowledge about the area but also the history of the Indigenous people of this land.*
- *Fantastic, Thank you*
- *Fun, thanks. Bush food tour sounds good.*
- *Thanks to National Parks/Living Coast.*
- *Fab tour- great company, good pace and great info, keep up the good work.*

Workshop 4: Installing big ticket items: Solar, solar hot water (SHW) and Rainwater tanks

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 7th of March 2012 and was presented by Ashley from North Coast Power and Water on Rainwater Tanks and Mark McClurg on solar and SHW and rebates of Self Sufficient Homes. The workshop was attended by only 6 people, all of whom completed the evaluation forms.

The organiser notes that the workshop had to be delayed by a month and the day of the week changed due to a delay by the only suitable venue which may have led to a reduction in the participants.

Regarding the presenters, the organiser commented that Mark McClurg from Self sufficient Homes could present as part of the agreement to get the free solar and SHW systems. He was a competent presenter and was seen as careful to present objective information rather than selling a product. Ashley had stepped in as a replacement for the original TAFE presenter (Tony Slade) who was unable to present. Ashley was a less confident speaker or as independent as the planned speaker.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 3

Number of females: 3

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%

15 to 24: 0%

25 to 34: 0%

35 to 44: 67%

45 to 54: 14%

Over 55: 14%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
14%	14%	0%	67%	0%	14%	28% Email

Note: Percentage exceeds 100% as several respondents heard about the workshop from multiple sources.

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- To find out ore about current solar PE systems.
- To work out how I can move forward on these big ticket items.
- Information on products, current state of industry, options for households.
- Great-Marc was very good at explaining complex issues - simply.
- Learn more to make decisions n the future.
- Learn more about solar power and water tanks etc.

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; “overall I was satisfied with the course”. The results are represented on the graph below.

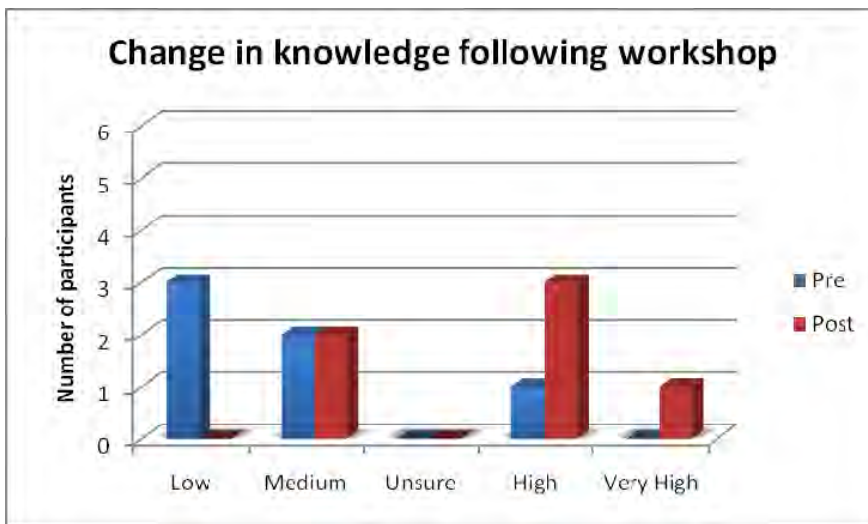


Course notes

All six participants stated that the course notes were useful. The remaining one felt they were not sure if they were useful or not.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- *Great session- thanks.*
- *Great session as always.*
- *Thanks so much.*
- *Thanks.*
- *Very informative and helpful, useful advice- Thanks*

Workshop 5: Raising ‘eggsellent’ chickens and identifying weeds

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 11th of April 2012 and was presented by Steve Fripp on Chooks of Coffs Harbour Produce and Saddlery and Carmen Muldoon the Bellingen Council invasive plants officer. The workshop was attended by only 6 people, all of whom completed the evaluation forms.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 2

Number of females: 4

Age of participants (%)

Under 15: 0%

15 to 24: 0%

25 to 34: 17%

35 to 44: 67%

45 to 54: 17%

Over 55: 0%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
0%	17%	0%	50%	0%	0%	50% Email, Elle, previous sessions

Note: Percentage exceeds 100% as several respondents heard about the workshop from multiple sources.

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



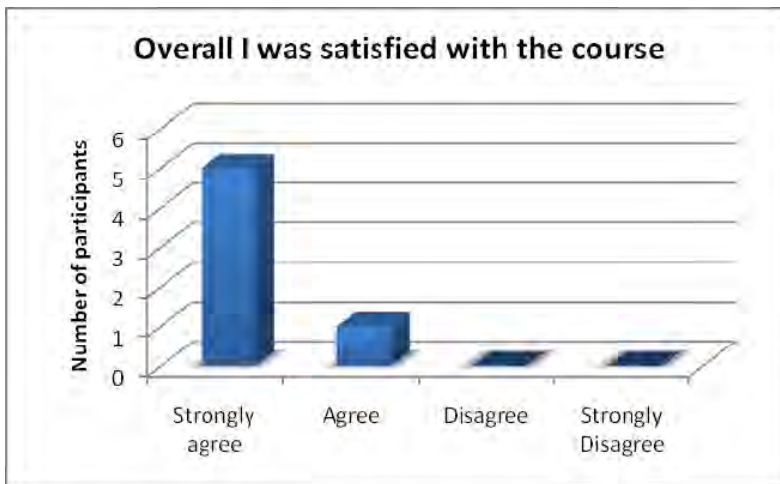
Comments on expectations:

Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- *To learn about chooks and weeds.*
- *Lots of info on chooks and examples of weeds and ways of removing weeds.*
- *More info about chickens!*
- *Learn more about chickens and weeds.*
- *To learn how to live more sustainably in general.*
- *Learn more about chooks to look at getting some.*

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; "overall I was satisfied with the course". The results are represented on the graph below.

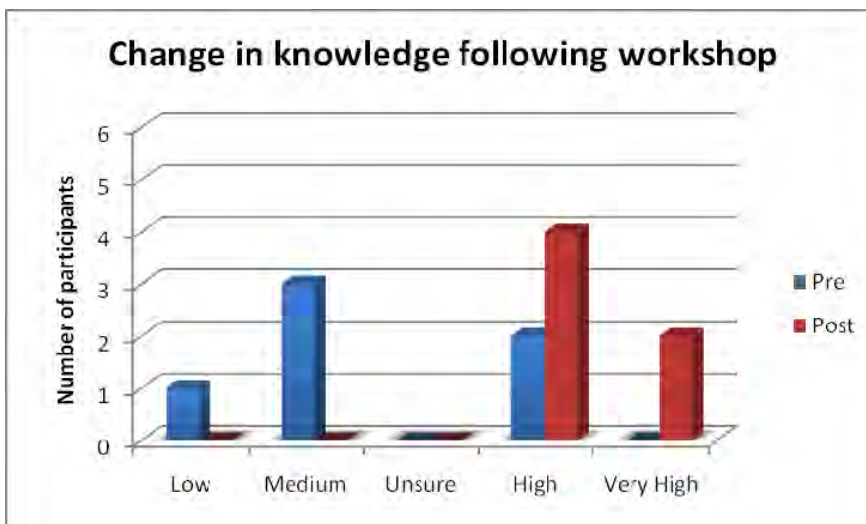


Course notes

All six participants stated that the course notes were useful. The remaining one felt they were not sure if they were useful or not.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- *Thanks so much Elle for all your efforts and organizing and feeding us.*
- *Community kayaks!!!*

Workshop 6: Ethical Shopping

Introduction

This workshop was held on the 16th of May 2012. The workshop was attended by only 6 people, all of whom completed the evaluation forms.

Demographics.

Gender

Number of males: 3

Number of females: 3

Age of participants (%)

- Under 15: 0%
- 15 to 24: 0%
- 25 to 34: 17%
- 35 to 44: 83%
- 45 to 54: 0%
- Over 55: 0%

How participants heard about the workshop (percentage of respondents)

Local Paper	Poster/notice board	Letterbox leaflet	OLC Website	Radio	Friends/family	Other
0%	17%	0%	33%	0%	33%	33% Elle Sign at fruit shop.

Note: Percentage exceeds 100% as several respondents heard about the workshop from multiple sources.

Results

Expectations of the Workshop

The following graph shows the extent to which participants felt that the workshop met their expectations.



Comments on expectations:

Participants were asked to describe what their expectations of the workshop were. Their responses are as follows:

- *Discussion on ethics for shoppers in supermarket.*
- *To learn how to be environmentally friendly.*
- *Unsure- the supermarket tour was great- able to ask questions.*
- *To find out how to make better shopping decisions.*

Satisfaction with the Workshop

Participants were asked to rate if they were satisfied by indicating their level of agreement with the following statement; "overall I was satisfied with the course". The results are represented on the graph below.

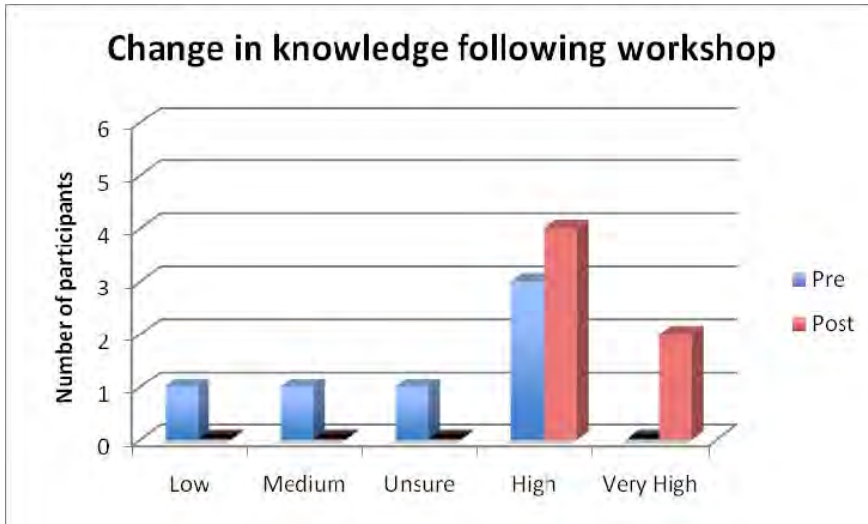


Course notes

Five of the six participants stated that the course notes were useful. The remaining one did not respond to this question.

Changes in knowledge following the workshop

Participants were asked to rate their level of knowledge before and after the workshop, the results are represented on the graphs below.



Additional comments:

- *It's a huge topic to discuss in one night but was still done well.*
- *Thanks keep me informed of the next series. I would like to revisit the subjects I missed.*

B. Sawtell Lifestyle Results

This section indicates the lifestyle choices that workshop participants were making prior to the workshop. They are laid out under specific sections, each colour- coded.

- Energy
- Food
- Cleaning
- Transport
- Waste
- Biodiversity
- Water

Sawtell demographics for the lifestyle data is in the box to the right. Thirteen people completed the lifestyle questionnaire at Sawtell

Demographics						
Are you?						
	homeowner	renter	other			
Number of participants	9	4	2			
How many people live in your household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
Number of participants	2	3	1	4	4	3
Gender						
	male	female				
Number of participants	6	9				
NB some participants indicated both male/female gender						
Age						
	< 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	over 55
Number of participants	0	0	2	8	3	0

Energy

Electricity consumption								
Cost	\$0-\$100	\$101-\$200	\$201-\$300	\$301-\$400	\$401-\$500	\$501-\$600	\$601-\$700	over \$700
Number of participants	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0

Hot water service type							
Type	electric storage	electric instant	gas instant	solar	fuel stove	gas	other
Number of Participants	10	0	1	4	0	0	0

Do you have PV?			
	PV Yes	PV No	kWh capacity
Number of participants	5	9	3kwh

Greenpower						
	no	< 25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	6	4	1	2	2	3

How many CFLs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	1	1	3	1	8	0

How many LEDs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%

Number of participants	6	4	1	0	1	0
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How do you heat your home										
	open fire	slow combustion stove	gas heater	gas central heater	hydronic	fan	radiative	convection	reverse cycle air conditioner	other
Number of participants	0	1	1	0	0	4	2	3	3	1 (small oil heater)

Heating thermostat		
	In winter	n/a
Number of participants	3 (to 22 degrees, 24% and 75% of max)	4

Air-conditioning		
	yes	no
Number of participants	3	10

Aircon temp

	In summertime	n/a	17degrees	18 degrees	19 degrees	20 degrees	21 degrees	22+ degrees
Number of participants	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	2

Insulation				
	ceiling	walls	floor	hot water pipes
Number of participants	8	2	1	4

Turn off switches			
	most	some	none
Number of participants	4	9	0

Food

Grow your own			
	fruit	herbs	vegetables
Number of participants	4	9	9

Buy local food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	2	2	9

Buy organic food

	yes	no	sometimes	Don't know
Number of participants	2	3	5	2

Fair trade food & drink

	yes	no	sometimes	don't know
Number of participants	2	3	5	2

Vegetarian

	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	1	10	2

How many serves of meat per week

	1to3	3to5	5to7	8to10	10+
Number of participants	4	4	3	1	0

Cleaning

Cleaning products currently use

	store bought chemical products	store bought "enviro friendly" products	non-toxic cleaning products	Other
Number of participants	4	9	8	1

Transport

Average car km travel week

	0-100km	101-200km	201-300km	301-400km	400+ km
Number of participants	8	3	0	0	0

Carpool			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	2	6	3

Carbon offset air travel				
	most	some	none	don't know
Number of participants	4	2	7	0

Average car fuel consumption						
	5-7	8-10	11-12	Over 12	n/a	don't know
Number of participants	2	3	2	1	0	4

Do you walk					
	daily	2to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	9	1	2	0	1

Do you cycle					
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	daily	2to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	3	0	3	3	3

Waste

Green waste					
	home compost	home worm farm	council green waste	rubbish bin	other
Number of participants	5	4	6	1	3 (chickens and Sawtell School compost system and banana circle)

Sort waste for recycling		
	yes	no
Number of participants	11	0

Biodiversity

Interest in native plants										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	3

Knowledge of native plants										
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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	0	3	3	0	2	1	0	1	0	1

Interest in native animals										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	4

Interest in native animals										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	4

Grow native plants			
	yes	no	some
Number of participants	11	1	0

Involved w bush regeneration		
	yes	no
Number of participants	1	12

Water

Rainwater tank		Use rainwater for							Capacity		
	yes	no	garden	laundry	kitche n	toilet	bathroom	other	Capacity under 5000	Capacity 5000- 10000	Capacity over 10000
Number of participants	2	11	2	1	0	1	9	1	0	0	0

Water saving devices installed									
	half flush toilet	low flow shower head	tap aerator kitchen	tap aerator bathroom	trigger nozzle garden	weight regulator toilet	washing machine water efficient	grey water reuse	other
Number of participants	10	6	15	2	6	0	7	0	1

Demographics

Are you?			
	homeowner	renter	other
Number of participants	9	4	0

How many people live in your household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
Number of participants	2	3	3	4	3	0

Gender		
	male	female
Number of participants	6	9

Age						
	< 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	over 55
Number of participants	0	0	2	8	3	0

Behaviour Change

This section indicate the actual and intended behaviour changes made as a result of the workshop

With regard to the Healthy Homes program, what are the three most important things you gained?

- Knowledge
- Know How
- Confidence to proceed
- Clarification on energy usage in homes
- Meet like minded people in the community
- Having chooks is easy!
- Rejuvenation of passion for healthy home
- Cleaner, healthier home
- Think about use.
- Be flexible about change
- Learning how to measure electricity usage
- My wife kicked her bleach habit
- Have a nifty shower timer
- Worthwhile info on all environmental topics e.g. food, electricity etc.
- Further self motivation to continue to live as sustainably as possibly.
- Chemical alternatives
- Compost confidence
- Electricity minimisation

Changes in behaviour

Participants were asked “What changes have you made/will you make as a result of these workshops – please tick those you have done as a result of the program and those you intend to do – if it is not applicable to your situation tick the n/a column and anything you had already done before the workshops leave the boxes blank.”

Energy

Changed old incandescent light globes to CFLs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	2

Changed old incandescent light globes to LEDs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	3

Turn standby power off at the power point			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	0	0

Change thermostat on heaters (18-20°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	5

Change thermostat on air conditioners (23-26°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	4

Set thermostat for hot water service to 60°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	1

Set temperature of fridge to 5°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	3	0

Set temperature of freezer for -15 °C			
--	--	--	--

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	3	0

Turn off bar fridge or 2nd fridge

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	5

Switched to "green power" through your electricity supplier or increased your % of greenpower.

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	2

Installed or topped up house insulation

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	6

Other changes

- use energy remote switcher
- turn appliances off at the powerpoint
- shorter showers
- Turning off appliances at power.
- Using less lights.
- Installed solar panels
- Become a "light nazi"

Cleaning

Have cleaned out the cupboards of all store bought chemical cleaning products

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
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Number of participants	4	1	0
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Use Vinegar			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	0	0

Use bicarbonate soda			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	0	0

Use borax			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Use Cloudy ammonia			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	2

Tea tree oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	0	0

Liquid soap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	0

Essentail oils			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	2	0

Use microfibre cloths			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	0	0

Other Changes

- aerate house to educe mould
- use environmentally safe dishwasher powder
- saving so much \$\$
- earth friendly laundry stuff

Garden

Grow your own fruit			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	2	1

Grow your own herbs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	3	0

Grow your own vegetables			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	3	0

Plant indigenous plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	2	1

Remove weeds			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	2	0

Built a no dig food garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	5	0

Mulch your plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	2	0

Started a worm farm			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	2	1	2
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Installed and using a compost bin/heap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	1

Big ticket items

Started a savings account for renewable energy on my house			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	2	2

Got a quote for solar power installation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	2

Got a quote for a rainwater tank			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	4

Have installed solar power (electricity)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	3	1

Have installed solar hot water			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	3	1

Have installed gas instantaneous hot water service			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	1	3

Have installed rainwater tank(s)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	4	0

Results of these changes

Have you seen any results from these changes so far? What are they?

- Greater awareness of environmental issues but more expectations from companies and suppliers of products and goods.
 - Joined small community groups and friends to help with food, gardening etc.
 - Return to more environmental thinking.
 - Change in practices in regard to saving power.
 - Commitment and preparation to home growing food
 - Less chemicals from cleaning, easier to clean.
 - Reduced energy bill
 - Solar panels are great = save money.
 - Remove weeds = fun to do as a family
- Cleaning products all safe = clean just as good and feel safe around children and environment
 - More lizards and frogs in garden near house and in vegies.

What results do you expect to see in the future?

- Improvements to our home for energy use.

- Grow more food.
- Better purchasing practices.
- Fresh, cheap, organic food.
- Less mould, Less time cleaning
- Minimised energy bill
- Save further money, less pollution of chemicals into the environment.
- Self pleasure in knowing I'm making a difference, even if it's in a small way.
- Less and less reliance on "the system".

What's stopping you from making changes? Can you list or describe any barriers?

- Some changes (i.e. big ticket items) take time because of costs and rebates and other government incentives have stopped.
- Finances, possible sale of house so waiting until we have moved.
- Nothing really, just making small increments
- Money and getting my butt into gear about finding info on water tanks.
- Overwhelming! So much still to do! But we re getting there.

Any other comments

- Would be great to see these continue so that community participation and awareness grows.
- Great program, really enjoyed participating. Like to see more like it.
- Great idea, look forward to more
- Excellent! Wish it was compulsory for all!
- Perhaps future series like this could be over a shorter time - say every two weeks? Keep more people involved?

Our Living Coast Healthy Homes Report Nambucca Heads Workshops

Introduction

Healthy Homes, a four workshop series, was held at Nambucca Heads between August and October 2012. This was in addition to the White Albatross Caravan Park series, see below.

Workshop topics were:

- Green Cleaning
- Save on Power Bills
- Reducing Food Waste Challenge
- Ethical Shopping

All workshops are evaluated independently below. In addition, participants completed lifestyle and behaviour data questionnaires and these are reported below.

Key Findings Nambucca Heads Healthy Homes

The data below from all sources indicates that in Nambucca:

- 93 people attended this four workshop series. Attendance levels remained good across the series.
- Participants found out about the workshop from a number of sources and no one promotional mechanism stood out in Nambucca, although the local newspaper was important.
- The workshops in Nambucca attracted an older demographic.
- All workshops evaluated very positively with the Food Waste Challenge inspiring a high level of interest.
- Presenters and workshop content were highly relevant and praised by participants.
- With regard to lifestyle issues raised by participants, it is noted that:
 - Twenty one people provided lifestyle data, but not all completed each question.
 - Over 60% spent less than 4300 per quarter on electricity
 - Seven respondents had solar hot water services and electric storage hot water systems were used by the majority of respondents.
 - Five households had PV cells for generating electricity, although they were quite small systems.
 - Only two respondents were signed up for greenpower.
 - Most people used CFLs to a large extent and some [40%] used LEDs.
 - Five people used air conditioning for heating [and cooling] and 7 used gas heating.
 - Very few changed the thermostat on appliances.
 - Over 65% turned off switches.
 - Most participants grew food at home and bought local food at least sometimes. Few purchased organic food often but well over 50% purchased it sometimes.

- Thirteen respondent use non-toxic cleaning products.
 - Cars are not used extensively. Almost 60% drive less than 100km per week.
 - Fourteen respondents car pool, at least sometimes.
 - Nambucca people are walkers, - 14 walk daily; but they are not cyclers 75% never cycle.
 - Over 50% compost at home and 33% worm farm. Everyone recycles.
 - Most grow native plants at home but have a low knowledge base about biodiversity – although 20% were bush regenerators.
 - Seven households had water tanks – 33%.
 - Most had some water saving devices installed – half flush toilets and low flow showers were the most popular.
- With regard to behaviour, nine people completed this survey and indicated that as a result of the workshops that:
 - Some had made changes to their management of electricity, switches off, reduced use of standby on computers etc. Few had changed thermostat settings etc.
 - Three [14%] had installed PV cells.
 - Four [19%] had installed solar hot water systems
 - Well over 50% have made changes to cleaning regimes, involving more use of natural cleaners. Four participants had cleaned out all store bought cleaners and four others intended to do so. Almost 50% had switched to using microfiber cloths.
 - More people are growing indigenous plants, mulching and removing weeds [about 30%].
 - Almost 30% are shopping more ethically and the same percentage intend to.
 - People are purchasing more organic food and fair trade products. There is an increase in planned shopping, better food storage [50%] and preserving [20%].

Relevant comments about behaviour change include:

- *I found that some things are very good to follow: other things I have been doing for years.*
- *Weed in garden. My garden looks better.*
- *I have been good about food waste.*
- *I try to shop ethically.*
- *Less packaging. Less car trips, Less petrol*
- *Spending less on cleaning items*
- *Feel better about doing the right thing, assume I'm saving money re power etc*
- *Yes I am more diligent at what I do with my food, garden waste*
- *Fewer trips to supermarkets - increased wellbeing*

Workshop Evaluation

Workshop 1. Green Cleaning

Our Living Coast Evaluation – Supplementary Report

This workshop was held on 8/8/12. Fourteen people attended. Twelve were from Nambucca and two from Valla Beach. Over 70% of people were over 55 years of age.

People heard about the workshop from

- Promotion in the local Paper – 8 people
- Poster/public notice board – 2
- Letterbox leaflet – 1
- Our Living Coast Website – 1
- Friend/family -2
- Other - Valla Market

All respondents said that the session met their expectations?

Good information

I have learnt much more

To expand my knowledge of sustainable living

To help with cleaning

I am really enjoying this. Thank you

Key findings

The course notes were clear and informative

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 4 or ‘very satisfied’ – 9 with the content

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 3 or ‘very satisfied’ 10 with the facilitator

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 4 or ‘very satisfied’ 8 with the overall workshop

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	1	6	2	6	-
AS a result of the workshop		1		7	6

I want to thank you very much. Let us tell the world

Workshop 2. Save on Power bills

This workshop was held on 22/8/12. Twenty one people attended. Nineteen were from Nambucca and two from Valla Beach and one from Coffs Harbour. Over 70% of people were over 55 years of age.

All but one respondent said that the session met their expectations? The one person whose expectations were not met, said: *some of them*. Comments included:

- *To learn about power savings for the home & the environment*
- *Info re energy use, waste & saving potential*
- *Introduction to energy use & pricing*
- *To learn how to reduce my energy bills*

Key findings

The course notes were clear and informative

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 1 or ‘very satisfied’ – 18 with the content. Two participants were ‘less satisfied.’

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 2 or ‘very satisfied’ 17 with the facilitator. Two participants were ‘less satisfied.’

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 7 or ‘very satisfied’ 14 with the overall workshop

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	2	6	3	9	1
AS a result of the workshop		2		14	5

Overall comments included:

- *More people should have been here*
- *A very interesting & thought provoking session. Well presented. Excellent catering. Thank you.*
- *Very good info*
- *Pleased that I attend it*
- *Shame not more time*
- *Presenter spoke faster than I could keep up with but great info. Could a written copy of info be available*
- *Some of the overheads were bit unclear*

- *Very well presented*
- *I will now use less power*
- *Great information to put into practice.*

Workshop 3. Reducing Food Waste Challenge

This workshop was held on 8/9/12. Thirty six people attended and 33 completed the evaluation form. The vast majority were from Nambucca. Over 70% of people were over 55 years of age. And over 60% were female.

Thirty respondents said that the session met their expectations? The three whose expectations were not met fully, said: *some of them*. Comments included:

- *To learn more about using leftover food and shopping*
- *To learn how to reduce waste & save money*
- *To stop food waste*
- *Tips on reducing waste - & use of left overs*
- *Learn preserving techniques*
- *Much lower than what I got*
- *Awareness raising of problems associated with food waste, information & techniques for food preservation & storage*

Key findings

The course notes were clear and informative.

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 6 or ‘very satisfied’ – 23 with the content. Only four participants were ‘less satisfied.’

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 6 or ‘very satisfied’ 24 with the facilitator. Two participants were ‘less satisfied.’

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 13 or ‘very satisfied’ 20 with the overall workshop.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	5	9	2	14	3
AS a result of the workshop		3		16	14

Overall comments included:

- *Lunch well presented*
- *I have really enjoyed this as all the other ones. Thank you*
- *This course should be presented to young families – would be invaluable to them*
- *Friendly also learnt about other things other than what I came for*
- *This was, great, informative and fun, wish the opportunity to do more, especially the ones I missed*
- *More workshops of different topics*
- *Very refreshing. Polly works very hard & her enthusiasm is catching*
- *A thoroughly enjoyable day. Hats off to all presenters*

Workshop 4. Ethical Shopping

This workshop was held on 5/10/12. Twenty two people attended and 21 completed the evaluation form. The vast majority were from Nambucca. Over 75% of people were over 55 years of age. And over 75% were female.

Nineteen respondents said that the session met their expectations? The two whose expectations were not met fully, said: *some of them*. Comments included:

- *Showed how to shop locally & carbon friendly*
- *To learn how to recognise ethical brands and Australian owned*
- *Information about and assistance with decision-making processes re ethical shopping*
- *Insight into choosing sensibly & understanding labeling*

Key findings

The course notes were clear and informative.

Participants were 'satisfied' – 4 or 'very satisfied' – 13 with the content. Only four participants were 'less satisfied.'

Participants were 'satisfied' – 2 or 'very satisfied' 17 with the facilitator. Two participants were 'less satisfied.'

Participants were 'satisfied' – 4 or 'very satisfied' 17 with the overall workshop.

There was a significant increase in participant's knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	3	7	2	8	1
As a result of the workshop		4	1	11	5

Other comments.

- The presenter Elle certainly knew how to convey the information.
- The booklet (Ethical Supermarket Shopping) is Excellent!
- These workshops have proved to be an outstanding example of local government co-operation and community building.
- Elle able to respond to questions & concerns raised & keep lot in line & on track – well done!

B. Nambucca Heads Lifestyle Results

This section indicates the lifestyle choices that workshop participants were making prior to the workshop. They are laid out under specific sections, each colour-coded

- Energy
- Food
- Cleaning Transport
- Waste
- Biodiversity
- Water

Nambucca Heads demographics for the lifestyle data is in the box to the right. Twenty one people completed the lifestyle questionnaire at Nambucca Heads.

Demographics			
Are you?			
	homeowner	renter	other
Number of participants	16	4	0

How many people live in your household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
Number of participants	16	5	0	0	0	0

Gender		
	male	female
Number of participants	8	13

Age						
	< 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	over 55
Number of participants	0	0	1	0	14	6

Our Liv

Energy

Electricity consumption								
Cost	\$0-\$100	\$101-\$200	\$201-\$300	\$301-\$400	\$401-\$500	\$501-\$600	\$601-\$700	over \$700
Number of participants	0	5	6	3	2	1	0	0

Hot water service type							
Type	electric storage	electric instant	gas instant	solar	fuel stove	gas	other
Number of Participants	10	1	2	7	1	1	0

Do you have PV?			
	PV Yes	PV No	kWh capacity
Number of participants	5	15	1.5 0.8 1.8 1.8

Greenpower						
	no	< 25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	16	1	0	0	0	1

How many CFLs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	1	2	2	3	6	6

How many LEDs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	12	6	0	0	2	0

How do you heat your home										
	open fire	slow combustion stove	gas heater	gas central heater	hydronic	fan	radiative	convection	reverse cycle air conditioner	other
Number of participants	0	2	7	1	0	4	0	2	5	2 oil column heater

Heating thermostat					
	In winter	n/a	18 -20 degrees	21-23 degrees	Over 23 degrees
Number of participants	5	9	1	3	1

Air-conditioning		
	yes	no
Number of participants	5	15

Aircon temp									
	In summertime	n/a	17degrees	18 degrees	19 degrees	20 degrees	21 degrees	22 degrees	23+ degrees
Number of participants	6	10	0	2	0	1	1	0	2

Insulation				
	ceiling	walls	floor	hot water pipes
Number of participants	12	1	0	4

Turn off switches			
	most	some	none
Number of participants	12	7	1

Food

Grow your own			
	fruit	herbs	vegetables
Number of participants	5	10	8

Buy local food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	13	0	8

Buy organic food			
	yes	no	sometimes

Number of participants	3	6	12
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Fair trade food & drink				
	yes	no	sometimes	don't know
Number of participants	2	5	8	6

Vegetarian			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	2	17	2

How many serves of meat per week					
	1to3	3to5	5to7	8to10	10+
Number of participants	2	10	4	1	0

Cleaning

Cleaning products currently use				
	store bought chemical products	store bought "enviro friendly" products	non-toxic cleaning products	Other
Number of participants	7	12	13	3

Transport

Average car km travel week					
	0-100km	101-200km	201-300km	301-400km	400+ km
Number of participants					

Number of participants	9	6	0	0	1
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Carpool			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	9	6	5

Carbon offset air travel				
	most	some	none	don't know
Number of participants	2	1	5	10

Average car fuel consumption					
	Less than 5	6-8	9-10	other	Don't know
Number of participants	1	2	3	\$50	11

Do you walk					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	14	3	1	1	1

Do you cycle					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	0	0	2	2	16

Waste

Green waste					
	home compost	home worm farm	council green waste	rubbish bin	other
Number of participants	11	7	12	0	1 plant it

Sort waste for recycling		
	yes	no
Number of participants	20	0

Biodiversity

Knowledge of native plants										
	0/1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	5	2	1	3	4	0	2	2	1	0

Grow native plants			
	yes	no	some
Number of participants	10	4	7

Involved with bush regeneration		
	yes	no
Number of participants	5	16

Water

Rainwater tank			Use rainwater for						Capacity		
	yes	no	garden	laundry	kitchen	toilet	Bath room	Other	Capacity under 5000	Capacity 5000-10000	Capacity over 10000

Number of participants	7	15	5	4	2	4	2	4 Drinking Whole house	2	0	5
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Water saving devices installed									
	half flush toilet	low flow shower head	tap aerator kitchen	tap aerator bathroom	trigger nozzle garden	weight regulator toilet	washing machine water efficient	grey water reuse	other
Number of participants	18	18	9	9	10	3	9	1	1 compositing toilet

C. Behaviour Change

This section indicates the actual and intended behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops at Nambucca Heads

With regard to the Healthy Homes program, what are the three most important things you gained?

- *Energy saving*
- *Marketing*
- *Waste management*
- *More aware of my environment*
- *Shift in my attitude*
- *Community awareness*
- *Some very sound information*
- *I have taken on board and will follow up*
- *You are never to old to hear new things*
- *..... with same type people*
- *Trying different things & goods*
- *Learning what Australian products are now not ours. "....."*
- *Knowledge*
- *Networking*
- *Inspiration*
- *How to clean without chemicals - mostly!*
- *Recognising Australian owned & content of food items*
- *That is information available*
- *Knowledge of services, businesses, projects etc happening in this area*
- *How to be 'green' in most aspects of life*
- *I learned a lot. So I have more knowledge than I did before*
- *Got to meet a lot of nice people*
- *That, finally, there is a groundswell of interest in living more sustainably*
- *That local governments CAN work together, productively, harmoniously, effectively.*
- *More knowledge of weeds*
- *Shopping more economically*
- *Knowledge*
- *Awareness*
- *Information*
- *Knowledge*
- *Waste management*
- *Community awareness*
- *You are never to old to hear new things*
- *Learning what Australian products are now not ours. "....."*
- *Inspiration*
- *That is information available*
- *Learnt more regarding Australian made and grown products*
- *Networking - social contact*
- *Community awareness*

Changes in behaviour

Participants were asked “What changes have you made/will you make as a result of these workshops – please tick those you have done as a result of the program and those you intend to do – if it is not applicable to your situation tick the n/a column and anything you had already done before the workshops leave the boxes blank.”

Energy

Changed old incandescent light globes to CFLs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	8	1	1

Changed old incandescent light globes to LEDs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	4	1

Turn standby power off at the power point			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	1	1

Change thermostat on heaters (18-20°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	5

Change thermostat on air conditioners (23-26°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	8

Set thermostat for hot water service to 60°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	3	2

Set temperature of fridge to 5°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	7	1	2

Set temperature of freezer for -15 °C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	2	1

Installed or topped up house insulation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Turn off bar fridge or 2nd fridge			
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	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	7

Switched to “green power” through your electricity supplier or increased your % of greenpower.

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed solar PV electricity

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	5

Installed solar hot water system

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	0	5

Cleaning

Have cleaned out the cupboards of all store bought chemical cleaning products

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	4	1

Use Vinegar

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
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Number of participants	12	1	0
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Use bicarbonate soda			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	11	1	0

Use borax			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	2	1

Use clove oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	3	0

Use Cloudy ammonia			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	2	1

Tea tree oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Use Methylated spirits			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	7	1	0
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Essential oils			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	1

Liquid soap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	0

Use microfibre cloths			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	0	0

Garden

Grow your own fruit			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Grow your own herbs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Grow your own vegetables			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Plant indigenous plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	1	0

Identified weeds in your garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	1

Remove weeds			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	7	2	1

Built a no dig food garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Mulch your plants			
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	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	3	1

Started a worm farm			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed and using a compost bin/heap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Big Ticket Items

There were no responses to this section

Shopping

<i>Use ethical shopping guide when shopping</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	6	0

<i>Shop at local farmers market</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	3	2

<i>Use reusable bags when shopping</i>			
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	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	3	0

<i>Buy fair-trade where possible</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	6	1

<i>Buy organic where possible</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	7	2

Food

<i>Plan my weekly menu</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	5

<i>Write a shopping list before I shop</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	1

<i>Measure my portion sizes</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	1	3

<i>Cook using up leftovers</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	11	0	0
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<i>Store food appropriately so it lasts</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	10	1	0

<i>Stopped throwing out as much food waste each week</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	2	3

<i>Preserving or pickling excess food</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	3	2

Other changes

- Freezing excess food

Results of these changes

Have you seen any results from these changes so far? What are they?

- I found that some things are very good to follow: other things I have been doing for years.
- Weed in garden. My garden looks better.
- I have been good about food waste.
- I will try to shop ethical.
- Less packaging. Less car trips, Less petrol
- Spending less on cleaning items
- Feel better about doing the right thing, assume I'm saving money re power etc
- Yes I am more diligent at what I do with my food, garden waste
- Fewer trips to supermarkets - increased wellbeing
- More aware of waste
- More aware of products & information
- Less waste. Awareness of electricity usage

What results do you expect to see in the future?

- For a better environment in and around my living space.
- Less electricity used. Fitter & healthier

- Lower power & water bills
- More fresh veg
- Strengthening of bulk goods buying co-op & organic vegie market at Bellingen
- Thought put into using recyclable and fresh produce
- Living more
- More interest in what I buy

What’s stopping you from making changes? Can you list or describe any barriers?

- I do most thing that have been recommended
- Time to study information
- Nothing can stop me now
- Price of organics, cheapness of imports.
- Being lazy
- Rent my home - no solar power etc,
- Limited income - organics is expensive, can't afford to fix the garden
- I have no barriers except for going back to old habits. But with all I have so far no going back
- Level of complication in arranging/choosing most suitable system of solar power for my home
- None at all
- Time - it takes time to change
- Taking use of time to change

Any other comments?

- No information is ever a burden.
- Thanks very much. It was great.
- Looking forward to community gardening
- Just a big thanks to Elle for all the work that she did. I loved this course. Julieane Hoysled
- Facilitator is excellent! 'Gifts' are much appreciated.
- Thank you Elle so much

Demographics for behaviour data

Gender

	Male	Female
Number of participants	1	9

Age

	Under 15	15-24	25-34	35 - 44	45 – 55	Over 55
Number of participants	0	0	0	0	1	10

Our Living Coast Healthy Homes Report Macksville Workshops

Introduction

Four Healthy Homes workshops were held at Macksville between August and October 2012. All workshops are evaluated independently below. The Workshops are:

- Green Cleaning
- Save \$ on Power Bills
- Manage Weeds
- Ethical Shopping

In addition, participants completed lifestyle and behaviour data questionnaires and these are reported below.

Key Findings Macksville Healthy Homes

The data below from all sources indicates that in Macksville.

The workshops:

- Seventy eight people attended the four workshop series in Macksville
- The vast majority were women and approximately 50% were over 55 years of age.
- The workshops were very positively evaluated with content and facilitators being highly praised.
- Expectations were largely met and substantial increases in knowledge resulted from each of the four workshops
- There was some evidence of intent to change behaviour immediately after each workshop.

With regard to lifestyle issues:

- Nineteen people completed the lifestyle questionnaire, seventeen of these were women.
- Mean expenditure on electricity per quarter was \$300 to \$400 which was quite high compared to other locations.
- Seven respondents had solar hot water and eleven used electricity [storage systems] to heat water.
- Two respondents had PV cells – capacity unknown.
- Seven respondents were purchased greenpower but none at more than a 50% rate.
- CFLs were popular but most at a level less than 100% of lighting
- LEDs were less used. Seven respondents had none.

- Seven respondents had air conditioning – all modified thermostat depending on season.
- Most had insulation but only in the ceiling.
- Most turned off power at the switch on appliances, at least some of the time.
- All grew some of their own food and purchased locally grown food at least some of the time. Many bought organic food but few purchased fair trade food and drink.
- Over 50% used non toxic cleaning products.
- Car use was limited although 2 participants drove more than 1200kms per week and another drove over 400kms.
- Very little car pooling occurred on a regular basis [3 only].
- Walking is popular with 45% walking daily and a similar number walking 2/3 times a week
- Cycling is not used by many as a form of transport or recreation [four only].
- Over 50% have a compost bin at home and one has a worm farm.
- There is low knowledge about biodiversity, but 16 respondents grow native plants at home.
- Nine have stormwater tanks and almost all use water saving devices.

Behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops

- Fifteen people completed the behaviour survey post workshop series.
- Seventy percent had changed light bulbs to CFLs and 33% had changed some to LEDs.
- Most had [or intend to] turned off appliances from standby power.
- Very few had changed thermostat settings, except in the fridge [50%]
- Three had installed PV cells and 5 had install solar.
- Well over 50% were using more non toxic cleaning products, especially vinegar and bi-carb.
- More indigenous planning was occurring and improved weeding – 50%. Mulching was also being undertaken more by 65% of respondents.
- More ethical shopping was occurring and almost 65% were using their own shopping bags.
- Purchasing organic foods was also increasing.
- Much less food was being wasted.
- Electricity usage is down because we are being smarter.

Workshops

Workshop 1. Green Cleaning

This workshop was held on 7/8/12. Fourteen people attended. Eleven were from Nambucca. Fifty percent were over 55 years of age and there were 13 women and one man at this workshop.

People heard about the workshop from

- Promotion in the local Paper – 7 people
- Poster/public notice board – 2
- Friend/family -4
- Other - Valla Market

Twelve respondents said that the session met their expectations. One said it did not and one did not answer the question.

Key findings

All found the course notes to be clear and informative

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 3 or ‘very satisfied’ – 9 with the content. One person was ‘not satisfied’ and one was ‘fairly satisfied.’

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 2 or ‘very satisfied’ - 10 with the facilitator. One person was ‘not satisfied’ and one was ‘fairly satisfied.’

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 7 or ‘very satisfied’ -7 with the overall workshop. This is an interesting finding given the two uncertain responses above.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	2	9	1	2	-
AS a result of the workshop		1	1 answered ‘improved’	12	1

Any other comments

- *Very informative & love the freebies*
- *Very good, informative, thank you*
- *Look forward to the next one!*
- *Love the idea, keep up the good work*
- *Very informative. Great practical tips!! Quite a few things for me to follow up on!!!*

Workshop 2. Save on Power Bills

This workshop was held on 21/8/12. Eighteen people attended. Seventeen were from Nambucca. Fifty percent were over 55 years of age and there were 13 women and one man at this workshop.

Seventeen respondents said that the session met their expectations. One said it did not. Some comments were:

- *Finding out how to reduce power bill*
- *Get good tips on energy savings & ideas for alternative energy*
- *Learn about what will help save costs and is sustainable*
- *To see where I was at in terms of usage*

Key findings

All found the course notes to be clear and informative

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 2 or ‘very satisfied’ – 14 with the content. One person was ‘not satisfied’ and one was ‘fairly satisfied.’

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 1 or ‘very satisfied’ - 16 with the facilitator. One person was ‘not satisfied’ with the facilitator but gave no reason why

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 4 or ‘very satisfied’ -13 with the overall workshop. One person did not answer this question.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	3	11	-	4	-
AS a result of the workshop	-	2	-	12	3

Other comments.

- *Good coverage of topics & up to date technology*
- *Thank you for so much helpful information*
- *Very concise in everyday language*
- *Wonderful to have this opportunity to learn in the Nambucca!*

- *Was a great experience, thank you Elle & Art*

Workshop 3. Manage Weeds

This workshop was held on 4/9/12. Twenty three people attended and twenty completed evaluation forms. Seventeen participants were from Nambucca. Fifty percent were over 55 years of age and there were 18 women and 3 men at this workshop.

Nineteen respondents said that the session met their expectations. One said it did not. Some comments were:

- To learn right weeds from wrong*
- Identification of weeds*
- To learn about local weeds & how to get rid of them*

Key findings

All found the course notes to be clear and informative.

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 6 or ‘very satisfied’ – 12 with the content. Two people were ‘fairly satisfied.’

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 1 or ‘very satisfied’ - 18 with the facilitator. One person was ‘not satisfied’ with the facilitator but gave no reason why.

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 4 or ‘very satisfied’ -16 with the overall workshop.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	6	7	4	2	1
AS a result of the workshop	-	6	1	8	5

Any other comments

- *Speaker – very informative, spoke clearly & well*
- *I learnt heaps, thank you*
- *Have noxious weed examples available*
- *Excellent presentation and excellent information*

- *Wonderful workshop presentation again. Thank you*
- *Great workshop. Thanks for all the information & advice*

Workshop 4. Ethical Shopping

This workshop was held on 2/10/12. Twenty three people attended but only twelve completed evaluation forms. All participants were from Nambucca. Fifty percent were over 55 years of age and there were 11 women and 2 men at this workshop.

All respondents said that the session met their expectations. Some comments were:

- *To be educated regarding the considerations leading to ethical shopping decisions*
- *Learn more about ethical shopping – it’s a challenge*
- *Learn about labeling & sourcing food from ethical sources*

Key findings

All found the course notes to be clear and informative.

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 1 or ‘very satisfied’ – 11 [92%] with the content.

All participants were ‘very satisfied’ - 12 with the facilitator. 100%

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 1 or ‘very satisfied’ -11 [92%] with the overall workshop.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	2	4	3	3	-
AS a result of the workshop	-	2		5	5

Other comments

- *Thank you Elle for your knowledge and your obvious enthusiasm*
- *Not “ethical” to do the shopping @ Woollies – should have been @ Foodworks*
- *Thanks so much for offering this in Macksville*
- *Actual presentation of the food product – to see where they were made, produced, company owner etc.*

- *This has been a wonderful exercise that everyone should experience.*

B. Macksville Lifestyle Results

This section indicates the lifestyle choices that workshop participants were making prior to the workshop. They are laid out under specific sections, each colour-coded

- Energy
- Food
- Cleaning Transport
- Waste
- Biodiversity
- Water

Macksville demographics for the lifestyle data is in the box to the right. Nineteen people completed the lifestyle questionnaire at Macksville.

Demographics						
Are you?						
	homeowner	renter	other			
Number of participants	17	2	0			

How many people live in your household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
Number of participants	1	10	1	4	1	2

Gender		
	male	female
Number of participants	2	17

Age						
	< 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	over 55
Number of participants	0	1	2	3	7	6

Energy

Electricity consumption								
Cost	\$0-\$100	\$101-\$200	\$201-\$300	\$301-\$400	\$401-\$500	\$501-\$600	\$601-\$700	over \$700
Number of participants	1	2	1	6	1	3	1	0

Hot water service type							
Type	electric storage	electric instant	gas instant	solar	fuel stove	gas	other
Number of Participants	11	0	0	7	0	0	1 heat pump

Do you have PV?			
	PV Yes	PV No	kWh capacity
Number of participants	2	17	Not stated

Greenpower						
	no	< 25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	10	5	2	0	0	0

How many CFLs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	1	5	1	6	2	4

How many LEDs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	7	5	1	2	4	0

How do you heat your home

	open fire	slow combustion stove	gas heater	gas central heater	hydronic	fan	radiative	convection	reverse cycle air conditioner	other
Number of participants	3	4	2	0	0	2	3	0	5	0

Heating thermostat

	In winter	n/a
Number of participants	3	11

Air-conditioning

	yes	no
Number of participants	7	10

Aircon temp

	In summertime	n/a	17degrees	18 degrees	19 degrees	20 degrees	21 degrees	22 degrees
Number of participants	7	8	0	1	0	0	1	5

Insulation

	ceiling	walls	floor	hot water pipes
Number of participants	14	10	1	2

Turn off switches

	most	some	none
Number of participants	12	6	1

Food

Grow your own			
	fruit	herbs	vegetables
Number of participants	7	14	14

Buy local food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	13	0	6

Buy organic food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	8	5	6

Fair trade food & drink				
	yes	no	sometimes	don't know
Number of participants	1	0	7	10

Vegetarian			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	3	15	1

How many serves of meat per week					
	1to3	3to5	5to7	8to10	10+
Number of participants	3	7	5	0	0

Cleaning

Cleaning products currently use				
	store bought chemical products	store bought "enviro friendly" products	non-toxic cleaning products	Other
Number of participants	10	10	11	1

Transport

Average car km travel week					
	0-100km	101-200km	201-300km	301-400km	400+ km
Number of participants	7	4	1	2	3 Included 2 participants who drove 1200km per week each.

Carpool			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	3	8	8

Carbon offset air travel				
	most	some	none	don't know
Number of participants	1	2	8	5

Do you walk					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	9	9	1	0	0

Do you cycle					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	1	1	3	0	12

Waste

Green waste					
	home compost	home worm farm	council green waste	rubbish bin	other
Number of participants	11	1	10	0	2 chooks

Sort waste for recycling		
	yes	no
Number of participants	17	1

Biodiversity

Knowledge of native plants										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	4	5	1	2	4	2	1	0	0	0

Grow native plants

	yes	no	some
Number of participants	16	0	3

Involved with bush regeneration		
	yes	no
Number of participants	1	18

Water

Rainwater tank			Use rainwater for						Capacity		
	yes	no	garden	laundry	kitchen	toilet	bathroom	other	Capacity under 5000	Capacity 5000-10000	Capacity over 10000
Number of participants	9	10	6	6	6	6	5	6	1	1	4

Water saving devices installed									
	half flush toilet	low flow shower head	tap aerator kitchen	tap aerator bathroom	trigger nozzle garden	weight regulator toilet	washing machine water efficient	grey water reuse	other
Number of participants	18	9	7	3	12	1	8	2	0

C. Behaviour Change

This section indicates the actual and intended behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops at Macksville.

With regard to the Healthy Homes program, what are the three most important things you gained?

- *The need to minimise food waste and to shop wisely.*
- *The need to plant using natives, preferably indigenous plants.*
- *Knowledge into making my country sustainable*
- *Saving money - it doesn't cost much to be sustainable*
- *Plants*
- *Cleaning*
- *Knowledge*
- *Samples*
- *Better understanding of power use & energy saving options*
- *Easier ways to manage & attack our weed problem*
- *Saving power usage*
- *Having pesticide/herbicide free grown plants especially vegetables/fruits*
- *Supporting Australian products*
- *Packaging*
- *Where food was made*
- *Packaging*
- *Check country of origin of food*
- *Packaging*
- *Cleaning with natural products*
- *Electricity one*
- *Gaining knowledge of how to look after our homes and environments in a better way*
- *How to build from our homes to the community a better world.*
- *More knowledge with regard to electricity and ways to save*
- *More knowledge on cleaning with green products*
- *Info on shopping for sustainability - greater awareness & greater of direction*
- *Info on reducing food waste etc*
- *Look deeper into information about products*
- *Ethical company's*
- *Electric*
- *Confidence to continue in a sustainable/ethical direction*
- *Chemical free - cleaning*
- *Origin of food*
- *Shopping (eye opening)*
- *More knowledge on shopping efficiently.*
- *Ethical products*

Changes in behaviour

Participants were asked: "What changes have you made/will you make as a result of these workshops – please tick those you have done as a result of the program and those you intend to do – if it is not applicable to your situation tick the n/a column and anything you had already done before the workshops leave the boxes blank."

Energy

Changed old incandescent light globes to CFLs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	2	2

Changed old incandescent light globes to LEDs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	2	3

Turn standby power off at the power point			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	4	0

Change thermostat on heaters (18-20°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	1	0	9

Change thermostat on air conditioners (23-26°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	1	6

Set thermostat for hot water service to 60°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	3	5

Set temperature of fridge to 5°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	8	3	1

Set temperature of freezer for -15 °C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	6

Installed or topped up house insulation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Turn off bar fridge or 2nd fridge			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	1	6

Switched to "green power" through your electricity supplier or increased your % of greenpower.			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed solar PV electricity			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	6

Installed solar hot water system			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	3	3

Other Changes

- Installed the standby power switch
- Reduced household number of lights on. Installed skylights.
- Got better discount on power
- Solar panels on roof
- Limited Showers. Turned standby switches off.

Cleaning

Have cleaned out the cupboards of all store bought chemical cleaning products			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	5	0

Use Vinegar			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	1	0

Use bicarbonate soda			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	1	0

Use borax			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	0	2

Use clove oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	8	1	2

Use Cloudy ammonia			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	1	2

Tea tree oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	0	0	0
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Use Methylated spirits			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	1	0

Essential oils			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	1	0

Liquid soap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	2	1

Use microfibre cloths			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	8	0	0

Other Changes

Stopped buying any cleaning products

Garden

Grow your own fruit			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Grow your own herbs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Grow your own vegetables			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Plant indigenous plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	10	2	0

Identified weeds in your garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	1

Remove weeds			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	2	0

Built a no dig food garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Mulch your plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	10	1	0

Started a worm farm			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed and using a compost bin/heap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Other changes

- Started a vege patch

Big Ticket Items

There were no responses to this section

Shopping

<i>Use ethical shopping guide when shopping</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of	4	9	0

participants			
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<i>Shop at local farmers market</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	6	0

<i>Use reusable bags when shopping</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	5	0

<i>Buy fair-trade where possible</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	9	0

<i>Buy organic where possible</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	4	2

Food

Plan my weekly menu			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	3	1

<i>Write a shopping list before I shop</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of	10	1	0

participants			
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<i>Measure my portion sizes</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	7	2	0

<i>Cook using up leftovers</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	1	0

<i>Store food appropriately so it lasts</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	8	1	0

<i>Stopped throwing out as much food waste each week</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	2	0

<i>Preserving or pickling excess food</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	1	3

Other changes

- Use worm farm. Use compost tubes.
- Made my compost heap today!
- Have started building chook run.
- More research on preserving.
- Using the microwave.
- 2 worm farms underway

Results of these changes

Have you seen any results from these changes so far? What are they?

- Our food budget is going further.
- We have received our first rebate from Solar PV.
- Reduce energy bills. Reduced food waste. Fatter dogs. Companion planting.
- Using less wash powder, less cleaning products, buying more vinegar & bicarb
- \$23 credit on the power bill, thinking more about personal impact.
- Love to support local growers
- Less food thrown out into green bin.
- Reduced costs for cleaning products.
- Cheap fertiliser from worm farm.
- Saving money. Eating much healthier.
- Cleaning products - no fumes. Put bicarb & vinegar in dishwasher to clean, brilliant.
- Shopping. Cleaning. Looking at where pest in the garden
- Cleaner shower screens.
- Less cost for cleaning products.
- Less working in the garden.
- Taking longer time with food shopping.
- Some monetary savings.
- A feeling of some satisfaction that I'm having some positive impact on the world.
- Not putting food in red bin, knowing cost of running electrical items

What results do you expect to see in the future?

- Change electricity usage
- Maybe a worm farm. Change more of the light globes over.
- Switch-off more standby things.
- Reduction in water costs. Keep electricity bill as low as possible.
- Improvements in my world
- For people to be more environmentally conscious and health conscious.
- Home vegetable garden. Lantana reduced on our 2 acre block.
- Home food bill not increasing.
- Chickens are a great way to recycle scraps - compost. More commitment.
- cleaner & uncluttered
- Better use of products - keeping , less reliance on commercial products.
-

What's stopping you from making changes? Can you list or describe any barriers?

- renter - can't change to PV or Solar
- men in the house
- Finances, time, energy
- Lack of knowledge. Cost to implement e.g. solar power.
- .Can't do any more changes with power as are on solar for hot water, have tanks for water, fans, fireplace. Have planted 100's of trees. Eat our own meat & sometimes veges.
- Ethical shopping is definitely more expensive. Sometimes it is not possible to comply with all recommendations therefore cost is a barrier.
- Time needed for extra thought, is somewhat scarce, when I'm already heavily involved in other areas of community life & need.

Any other comments?

- Hope to get Nambucca Valley L.E.T.S (barter system) re-established in the near future! Have been doing this for the whole 23 years I have lived in the valley!
- Have thoroughly enjoyed the workshops. Thanks so much for bringing to the Nambucca Valley. Ken & Carmel Hong.
- Great course.
- All workshops were very informative. I would recommend them to others if they were repeated.
- Thank you so much for the wonderful presentation of this series of workshops. More need to be involved/educated!
- More information on solar systems from independent sources

Demographics for behaviour data

Gender

	Male	Female
Number of participants	2	13

Age

	Under 15	15-24	25-34	35 - 44	45 – 55	Over 55
Number of participants	0	0	0	1	5	8

Our Living Coast Healthy Homes Report Valla Beach Workshops

Introduction

Four Healthy Homes workshops were held at Valla Beach between August and October 2012. All workshops are evaluated independently below. The Workshops were:

- Save \$ on Power Bills
- Manage Weeds
- Ethical Shopping
- Green Cleaning

In addition, participants completed lifestyle and behaviour data questionnaires and these are reported below.

Key Findings Valla Beach Healthy Homes

The data below from all sources indicates that in Valla Beach.

The workshops:

- Sixty four people attended the four workshop series in Valla Beach.
- The vast majority of the groups were women and approximately 50% were over 55 years of age.
- All of the workshops were very positively evaluated with content and facilitators being highly praised. There was a remarkable consistency between workshops even if different presenters were used.
- Expectations were largely met and substantial increases in knowledge resulted from each of the four workshops.
- An exceptionally high growth in knowledge was evident.
- There was some evidence of intent to change behaviour immediately after each workshop.

With regard to lifestyle issues:

- Nineteen people completed the lifestyle questionnaire.
- Average spend on electricity per quarter was more than \$450, which was quite high, comparatively.
- Six households had solar hot water and 3 had instantaneous gas systems. The rest heated water by use of electricity.
- Two household had PV cells but the capacity was small.
- Only one household subscribed to greenpower.

- Most used CFLs, with a significant percentage using them on more than 50% of lights
- There was a low level use of LEDs.
- Five households had air conditioning and four used it on reverse cycle, to heat the home.
- Four had gas heating.
- At least 50% used the thermostat on heating and cooling appliances to control temperature appropriately.
- Most had insulation at home and turned off power on standby.
- All respondents bought local food, at least some of the time and many purchased organic food, but few purchased fair trade food and drink.
- Over 75% used non-toxic cleaners
- Mean car use per week was well over 200Km.
- About 50% of respondents car pool but not regularly.
- Walking is popular and cycling is not.
- 5% of people compost at home and two more worm farm. All recycle.
- Knowledge of native plants is relatively low.
- Eight have a rainwater tank and the vast majority have dual flush toilets and low flow shower heads.

Behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops

- Thirteen people completed the behaviour change questionnaire.
- Substantial self reported changes were made as a result of the workshops
- Almost 100% turn off computers etc rather than using standby power.
- Most have set thermostats more appropriately to season/need.
- Two have installed PV cells and eight have installed water tanks.
- Most are now using non-toxic cleaners, especially vinegar, clove oil and bi-carb.
- More people [7] are planting indigenous plants at home.
- Weeding and mulching behaviour has increased.
- Eight people are using the Ethical Shopping Guide regularly and there is increased shopping for fair trade items.
- Less food is being wasted and more is stored appropriately.

Workshops

Workshop 1. Save \$ on Power Bills

This workshop was held on 15/8/12. Eighteen people attended. All were from the Nambucca LGA. Over fifty percent were over 55 years of age and there were 15 women and 3 men at this workshop.

People heard about the workshop from

- Promotion in the local Paper – 5 people
- Poster/public notice board – 2
- OLC Website - 4
- Friend/family -
- Other - 6 Valla Market, Valla Views etc

Seventeen respondents said that the session met their expectations. One said it met some of their expectations. Some comments were:

- *Fill in the many gaps in my knowledge on making a home energy efficient*
- *Learn some good habits for dollar and environmental benefits*
- *More on other energy sources would have been good i.e. wind, hydro as we can't use solar on our property*
- *To save money*
- *To be provided with a range of strategies to combat rising prices & to promote a greener lifestyle*

Key findings

Sixteen people found the course notes to be clear and informative and two were: ‘not yet sure.’

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 4 or ‘very satisfied’ – 14 with the content.

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 2 or ‘very satisfied’ - 16 with the facilitator

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 4 or ‘very satisfied’ -14 with the overall workshop.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	2	7	-	9	-
AS a result of the workshop		3	-	12	3

Other comments.

- *Enjoyable/informative/well worth attending*
- *I'm re-inspired to address the idea of installing solar panels*
- *Thank you, an excellent workshop*
- *Very informative, thank you*
- *Excellent course. I believe there were people there that would have gleaned a lot from the evening*

- *Thanks so much for organizing this and for the freebies*
- *Pleasant surprise. Well done, Elle*
- *Professional, informative and enjoyable.*

Workshop 2. Weeds Valla Beach

This workshop was held on 29/8/12. Eleven people attended and ten completed evaluation forms. All were from Nambucca LGA. **Over fifty percent were over 55 years of age and there were 6 women and 5 men at this workshop.**

All respondents said that the session met their expectations. Some comments were:

- *Learn more knowledge - More so in eradication of weeds and methods available*
- *Better understand weeds and grasses in the local area*
- *More information on managing garden*
- *Definitions; categorisation; actions*

Key findings

All found the course notes to be clear and informative.

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 3 or ‘very satisfied’ – 7 with the content.

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 3 or ‘very satisfied’ - 8 with the facilitator

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 3 or ‘very satisfied’ -7 [70%] with the overall workshop.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	2	4	1	3	-
AS a result of the workshop		3	-	5	2

Other comments.

- Thank you, very informative
- Well organised and presented. Great food
- Excellent workshop, please do more!!

Workshop 3. Ethical Shopping

This workshop was held on 26/9/12. Fifteen people attended. All were from the Nambucca LGA. Over fifty percent were over 55 years of age and there were 15 women and 3 men at this workshop.

Fourteen respondents said that the session met their expectations. One said it met some of their expectations. Some comments were:

- *To find out about Australian produced products*
- *To learn how to fulfill certain expectations when shopping: sustainable products work ethics, local produce*
- *To learn about products i.e. their environmental impact, how they were made. Strategies for “wiser” shopping*
- *To understand the ratings and origins of supermarket products*
- *To learn about ethical shopping and which brands to try to buy*
- *Review ethical shopping guide*

Key findings

Fourteen people found the course notes to be clear and informative and one was: ‘not yet sure.’

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 1 or ‘very satisfied’ – 14 with the content.

Participants were ‘very satisfied’ - 15 with the facilitator

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 2 or ‘very satisfied’ -12 with the overall workshop.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	3	9	-	3	-
AS a result of the workshop		1	-	11	3

Other comments

- *Lovely group of like-minded people*
- *Was great informative, handouts a great help*
- *Very useful – great feast*
- *Very pleasant presenter. Learnt sooooo.. much. Will be happy to make better choices in the future*

- *It would be great if you could continue these workshops as they are excellent*
- *Thank you for the shopping booklet.*

Workshop 4. Green Cleaning and Detox

This workshop was held on 10/10/12. Twenty two people attended and all but one completed an evaluation form. All were from Nambucca LGA. Over fifty percent were over 55 years of age and there were 17 women and 4 men at this workshop.

Twenty respondents said that the session met their expectations. One said it met some of their expectations. Some comments were:

- *To learn practical household cleaning hints and how to avoid harmful products/practices*
- *Learn about chemicals in home & what to use instead.*

Key findings

90% of people found the course notes to be clear and informative.

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 6 or ‘very satisfied’ – 15 with the content.

Participants were ‘satisfied’ – 6 or ‘very satisfied’ - 15 with the facilitator.

Overall participants were ‘satisfied’ – 7 or ‘very satisfied’ -14 with the overall workshop.

There was a significant increase in participant’s knowledge as a result of the workshop.

Knowledge	Low	Medium	Unsure	High	Very High
Prior to the Workshop	2	9	2	7	-
AS a result of the workshop		1	1	8	10

Other comments.

- *Great initiative, well worth attending*
- *Very interesting*
- *Congratulations to Gwen Hanna on an excellent presentation – a bit of an eye opener to the subjects of compact fluorescent light globes & electro magnetic radiation*
- *I found the night a very interesting & informative. Thank Gwen Hanna*
- *Thank you so much.*

B. Valla Beach Lifestyle Results

This section indicates the lifestyle choices that workshop participants were making prior to the workshop. They are laid out under specific sections, each colour-coded

- Energy
- Food
- Cleaning Transport
- Waste
- Biodiversity
- Water

Valla demographics for the lifestyle data is in the box to the right. Twenty people completed the lifestyle questionnaire at Valla Heads.

Demographics						
Are you?						
	homeowner	renter	other			
Number of participants	18	1	1			

How many people live in your household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
Number of participants	7	9	0	2	0	0

Gender		
	male	female
Number of participants	5	15

Age						
	< 15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	over 55
Number of participants	0	1	3	3	9	4

Energy

Electricity consumption								
Cost	\$0-\$100	\$101-\$200	\$201-\$300	\$301-\$400	\$401-\$500	\$501-\$600	\$601-\$700	over \$700

Number of participants	0	0	3	2	3	1	1	1
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Hot water service type							
Type	electric storage	electric instant	gas instant	solar	fuel stove	gas	other
Number of Participants	8	0	3	6	0	1	1 heat pump

Do you have PV?			
	PV Yes	PV No	kWh capacity
Number of participants	2	18	1.26 2

Greenpower						
	no	< 25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	18	0	0	0	0	1

How many CFLs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	0	8	0	2	6	3

How many LEDs						
	None	<25%	b/w 25% & 50%	b/w 50% & 75%	b/w 75% & 99%	100%
Number of participants	9	4	2	2	2	0

How do you heat your home										
	open fire	slow combustion stove	gas heater	gas central heater	hydronic	fan	radiative	convection	reverse cycle air conditioner	other
Number of participants	2	2	4	0	0	0	3	2	4	1 oil electric

Heating thermostat					
	In winter	n/a	18 -20 degrees	21-23 degrees	Over 23 degrees
Number of participants	45	10	2	2	0

Air-conditioning		
	yes	no
Number of participants	5	12

Aircon temp									
	In summertime	n/a	17degrees	18 degrees	19 degrees	20 degrees	21 degrees	22 degrees	23+ degrees
Number of participants	6	7	0	1	0	0	0	1	4

Insulation				
	ceiling	walls	floor	hot water pipes
Number of participants	13	10	3	5

Turn off switches			
	most	some	none
Number of participants	10	6	1

Food

Grow your own			
	fruit	herbs	vegetables
Number of participants	7	11	8

Buy local food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	12	0	7

Buy organic food			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	5	4	10

Fair trade food & drink				
	yes	no	sometimes	don't know
Number of participants	4	1	11	3

Vegetarian			
	yes	no	sometimes

Number of participants	0	14	5
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How many serves of meat per week					
	1to3	3to5	5to7	8to10	10+
Number of participants	4	7	5	1	0

Cleaning

Cleaning products currently use				
	store bought chemical products	store bought "enviro friendly" products	non-toxic cleaning products	Other
Number of participants	8	12	15	1

Transport

Average car km travel week					
	0-100km	101-200km	201-300km	301-400km	400+ km
Number of participants	5	5	1	3	4

Carpool			
	yes	no	sometimes
Number of participants	4	9	6

Carbon offset air travel				
	most	some	none	don't know
Number of participants	5	3	7	5

Average car fuel consumption					
	Less than 6	6-8	9-10	Over 10	Don't know
Number of participants	1	6	6	1	4

Do you walk					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	12	6	1	0	0

Do you cycle					
	daily	2 to3 times a week	weekly	monthly	never
Number of participants	0	1	2	0	16

Waste

Green waste					
	home compost	home worm farm	council green waste	rubbish bin	other
Number of participants	13	2	8	2	0

Sort waste for recycling		
	yes	no
Number of participants	20	0

Biodiversity

Knowledge of native plants										
	0/1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of participants	2	3	1	1	6	1	0	2	1	3

Grow native plants			
	yes	no	some
Number of participants	11	2	7

Involved with bush regeneration		
	yes	no
Number of participants	5	15

Water

Rainwater tank			Use rainwater for						Capacity		
	yes	no	garden	laundry	kitchen	toilet	Bath room	Other	Capacity under 5000	Capacity 5000-10000	Capacity over 10000
Number of participants	8	11	8	7	7	9	6	2 Whole house	1	2	5

Water saving devices installed									
	half flush toilet	low flo shower head	tap aerator kitchen	tap aerator bathroom	trigger nozzle garden	weight regulator toilet	washing machine water efficient	grey water reuse	other
Number of participants	18	14	11	7	14	1	13	4	0

C. Behaviour Change

This section indicates the actual and intended behaviour changes made as a result of the workshops at Valla

With regard to the Healthy Homes program, what are the three most important things you gained?

- *Consider things more carefully eg use of electricity/cleaners etc*
- *Cleaning products for home*
- *Very helpful information*
- *Heaps of useful, practical things to improve the quality of our lifestyle*
- *Knowledge on chemicals in my home & how to reduce use*
- *The ethical shopping guide*
- *Knowledge for everyday living*
- *Awareness*
- *Information on electricity*
- *A greater awareness of problem chemicals*
- *Increased awareness of energy & environmental matters*
- *Energy conservation*
- *Knowledge on sustainable shopping*
- *Awareness of food symbols on products*
- *Knowledge that I have been doing the right thing for quite a while before the programme*
- *Knowledge of energy saving devices*
- *Meeting people & sharing ideas*
- *Increase awareness of electro magnetic radiation*
- *Living without so many chemicals*
- *Money saving strategies*
- *Recycling waste using bins correctly & reducing food waste*
- *The info on plastics & nano particles*
- *Loved all the courses*
- *Confirming own ideas*
- *Community involvement*
- *Shopping sustainably*
- *Buying products with as little packaging as possible*
- *Healthy cleaning options*
- *How much recycle waste is going into landfill*
- *Tips on cleaning, p Food/fuels*
- *Being aware of electrical wastage*
- *Understanding of the "negatives" of many of our everyday practices.*
- *Gained more knowledge on weed & local plants*
- *Saving power ideas*
- *Great useful giveaways*
- *Cleaning*
- *That making little changes can have - big effect*
- *Identifying weeds*
- *How much microwave radiation is emitted from my powerboard (at my bedhead) particularly information re: EMR*

Changes in behaviour

Participants were asked “What changes have you made/will you make as a result of these workshops – please tick those you have done as a result of the program and those you intend to do – if it is not applicable to your situation tick the n/a column and anything you had already done before the workshops leave the boxes blank.”

Energy

Changed old incandescent light globes to CFLs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	2	6

Changed old incandescent light globes to LEDs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	5	13

Turn standby power off at the power point			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	13	1	0

Change thermostat on heaters (18-20°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	12

Change thermostat on air conditioners (23-26°C)			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	0	11

Set thermostat for hot water service to 60°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	3

Set temperature of fridge to 5°C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	12	2	0

Set temperature of freezer for -15 °C			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	11	0	3

Installed or topped up house insulation			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Turn off bar fridge or 2nd fridge			
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	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	4	1	8

Switched to “green power” through your electricity supplier or increased your % of greenpower.

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed solar PV electricity

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	2	5

Installed solar hot water system

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	8	1	0

Other

- Use energy device to see what items chew up electricity. Now I'm more awake up to what to keep to a minimum
- Small Kw heater
- Borrowed the electricity monitor from the library and checked energy use of all appliances

Cleaning

Have cleaned out the cupboards of all store bought chemical cleaning products

	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
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Number of participants	2	7	0
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Use Vinegar			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	12	4	1

Use bicarbonate soda			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	12	4	1

Use borax			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	5	4

Use clove oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	8	5	2

Use Cloudy ammonia			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	4	4

Tea tree oil			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	0	0	0
------------------------	---	---	---

Use Methylated spirits			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	10	3	1

Essential oils			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	9	5	2

Liquid soap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	1

Use microfibre cloths			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	11	5	1

Other

New house with readily cleanable surfaces. Well insulated & north facing heat storage slabs

Garden

Grow your own fruit			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a

Number of participants	0	0	0
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Grow your own herbs			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Grow your own vegetables			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Plant indigenous plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	7	2	0

Identified weeds in your garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	0

Remove weeds			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	1

Built a no dig food garden			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Mulch your plants			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	2	1

Started a worm farm			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Installed and using a compost bin/heap			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	0	0	0

Big Ticket Items

There were no responses to this section

Shopping

<i>Use ethical shopping guide when shopping</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	8	0	1

<i>Shop at local farmers market</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	2	1

<i>Use reusable bags when shopping</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	7	3	0

<i>Buy fair-trade where possible</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	1	1

<i>Buy organic where possible</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	3	0

Food

<i>Plan my weekly menu</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	2	2

<i>Write a shopping list before I shop</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	1	0

<i>Measure my portion sizes</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	3	0	2

<i>Cook using up leftovers</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	6	0	0

<i>Store food appropriately so it lasts</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	1	0

<i>Stopped throwing out as much food waste each week</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	5	1	1

<i>Preserving or pickling excess food</i>			
	Have done	Intend to do	n/a
Number of participants	2	1	2

Results of these changes

Have you seen any results from these changes so far? What are they?

Saving electricity

- Energy savings. Time saving. Thoughtful decision making.
- Money saving. Time saving. More thoughtful decision making
- Less garbage in red bin. Less electricity use in fridge/freezer.
- Yes - buying different products at the supermarket not taking home vegies in the plastic bags

What results do you expect to see in the future?

Growing more vegies

- More stringent in how I run my household
- Further issues addressed & acted upon. A lessening impact on the environment
- Less carbon footprint. Better energy use. More money in my pocket.
- Get 6 solar panels

What’s stopping you from making changes? Can you list or describe any barriers?

- Time to implement some
- Time & scope of change but I am committed to do something (little steps)
- Money for solar
- Costs of some products & change of habits

Any other comments?

- Thank you
- Excellent workshops. 'Thank you!'
- Learnt a lot - enjoyed both sessions attended

Demographics for behaviour data

Gender

	Male	Female
Number of participants	1	11

Age

	Under 15	15-24	25-34	35 - 44	45 – 55	Over 55
Number of participants	0	0	1	2	4	5

Our Living Coast Healthy Homes Report White Albatross Caravan Park Nambucca Heads

Introduction

Healthy Homes workshops were held in the White Albatross Caravan Park Nambucca Heads between October 2011 and June 2012. Workshop topics were:

- Energy
- Waste
- Composting
- Tree planting

Key Findings Nambucca Heads White Albatross Healthy Homes

The data below from all sources indicates that in Nambucca:



Our Living Coast Workshops

Healthy Homes – White Albatross Energy Workshops Nambucca Shire

12th October 2011

Introduction and Demographics.

This workshop was held in the White Albatross Caravan Park on the 12th of October 2011. Eighteen participants returned completed evaluation forms.

Participants were asked: ‘How did you hear about the workshop.’ The majority (10/18) indicated ‘other methods’ including walking past, the Park Office or seeing it in the Park newsletter. Three had seen a poster or notice board, three heard from family or friends and two saw a letterbox leaflet. No-one indicated that they had heard about the workshop through the local paper or OLC website.

Eight (8) participants were male and nine (9) were female (one did not indicate their gender); all but one participant was in the over 55 age range with the remaining one in the 45-54 year age group.

Results

Note: all direct participant quotes are detained in brackets

Meeting of expectations:

Participants were asked: ‘did the session meet your expectations?’ The results are indicated in the table below. The extent of participant satisfaction was encouraging.



They were also asked what these expectations were. Participants indicated that they had expected the following:

- *To find out how to save on electricity*
- *Learning to use efficiently*
- *Information*
- *Learning how to save on energy usage*
- *Saving methods*

Overall Satisfaction:

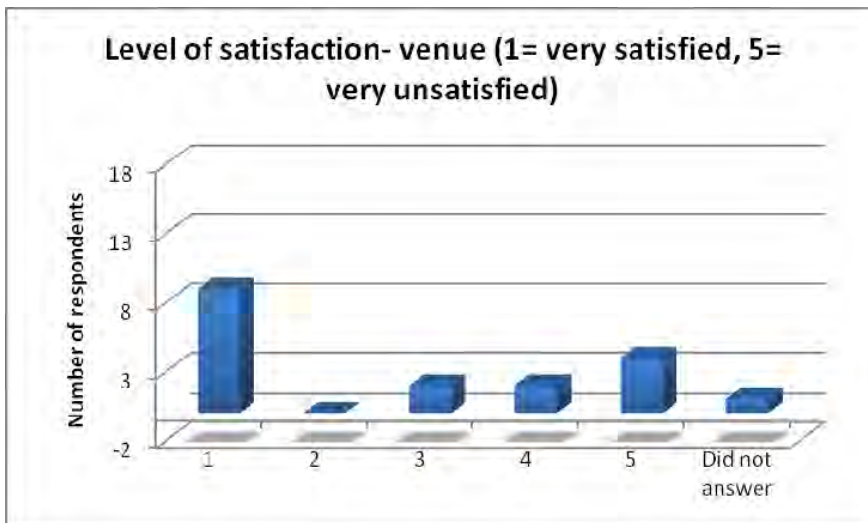
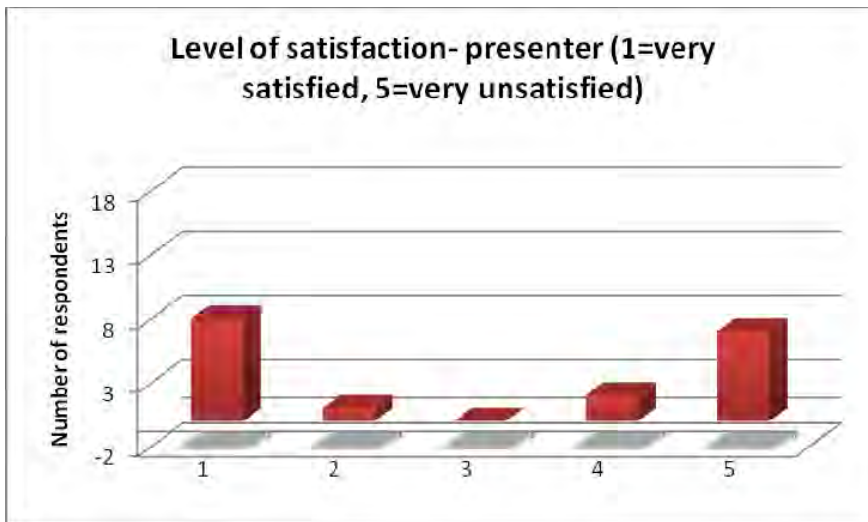
Overall satisfaction with the workshop is represented below. All participants were ‘very satisfied’, which is an encouraging finding.



Comments on Specific aspects of the presentation:

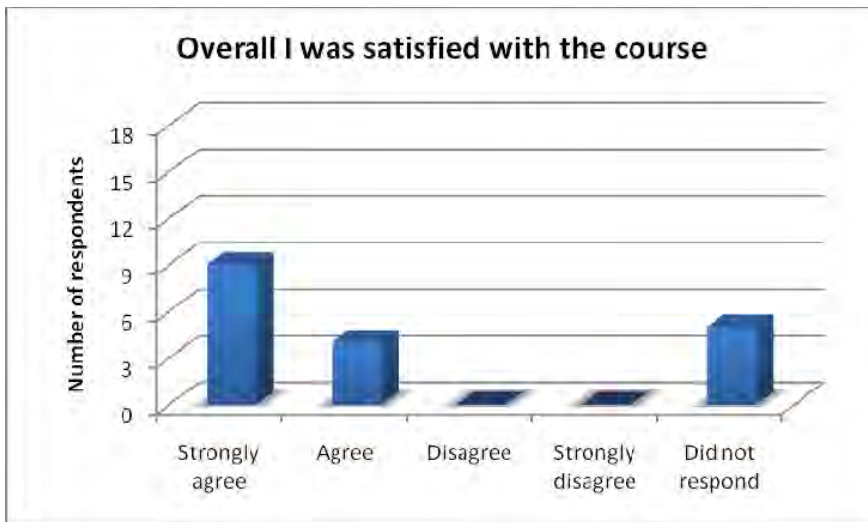
When this high level of satisfaction is broken down however the results were very mixed and somewhat at odds to the overall satisfaction rating. The evaluator is at a loss to explain this spread of views about individual aspects of the workshop experience.





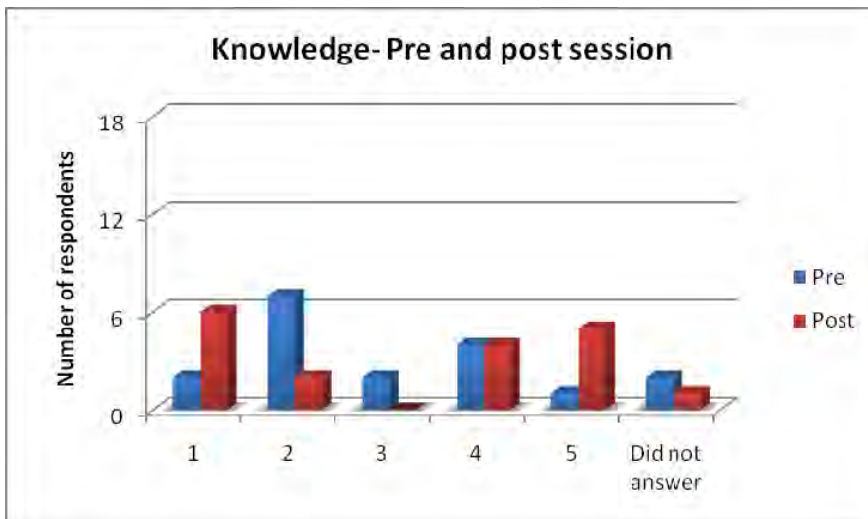


Overall Level of satisfaction



Level of knowledge

This workshop was oriented towards improving knowledge. The following graph indicates that there was knowledge improvement for a number of participants, however 4 people indicated that knowledge went backwards as a result of the workshop. This can only be explained by their confusion in reading the question, it is possible that they thought that 1 was a higher order than 5.



Other comments

- *Very informative and well run*
- *The presentation was very professional*
- *Extremely helpful*
- *Questions answered very well*
- *Very good info*

- *Thank you for coming to inform us, very interesting*

Conclusion:

Overall the group felt their expectations for the session had been met

All eighteen participants who responded to the evaluation survey were satisfied with the overall workshop. The comments were very positive overall and clearly expectations were met.

In contrast to this, several people indicated that their level of knowledge had reduced and that they were very unsatisfied with aspects of the course. It is likely that many people misread the rating scale on the forms and so it is not possible to report on knowledge improvement with any certainty.

Other Workshops in the series. These were:

- Waste
- Composting
- Tree planting

There has been a steady drop off in participants for the waste and composting workshops. The tree planting workshop had about 6 people in attendance and another 5 walk through to collect plants. First we did a walk around their gardens and identified any problematic weeds. Then we divided indigenous plants up for the residents to plant. We also set up two compost bins and two worm farms. None of these were formally evaluated.

Part E. Living Smart Workshops



Our Living Coast

Living Smart Workshop

Taylors Arm

Introduction.

This four session Living Smart workshop was completed on the 9th of August 2011 with the Taylors Arm Group. Six participants completed the evaluation form, all of whom were from the Nambucca Shire. Note all direct quotes in this report are in italics.

Results of the evaluation

Overall Satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate their level of satisfaction on a scale from 'very satisfied' to 'unsatisfied.' Five out of six stated they were 'very satisfied' while one stated they were 'satisfied.'

The reasons given included the following:

- *Information was good*
- *Teacher good*
- *Loved how it came to us*
- *Very informative, great ideas*
- *I got lots of information on energy saving devices and learned a lot on rainwater tank maintenance*
- *Covered lots of subjects*
- *It stretched my mind, I'm still learning*

Individual Program sessions – Four Sessions Living Smart Program

Participants were asked to rate the individual sessions in terms of their content and presentation. The results are as follows.

Energy

Content: 66% (4/6) rated the workshop content as 'excellent' and 33% rated it as 'good.' No participants rated it as 'ok' or 'poor.'

Presentation: 50% (3/6) rated the workshop presentation as 'excellent' and 50% as 'good'. No participants rated it as 'ok' or 'poor'

Waste

Content: 66% (4/6) rated the workshop content as 'excellent' and 33% as 'good'. No participants rated it as 'ok' or 'poor.'

Presentation: 33% (4/6) also rated the workshop presentation as 'excellent' and 33% as 'good.' No participants rated it as 'ok' or 'poor.'

Transport

Content: 50% (3/6) rated the workshop content as 'excellent' and 50% as 'good'. No participants rated it as 'ok' or 'poor.'

Presentation: 50% (3/6) also rated the workshop presentation as 'excellent' and 50% as 'good.' No participants rated it as 'ok' or 'poor.'

Biodiversity

Content: 50% (3/6) rated the workshop content as 'excellent', 33% (2/6) as 'good' and 17% as 'ok.' No participants rated it as 'poor.'

Presentation: 50% (3/6) rated the workshop presentation as 'excellent' and 50% as 'good.' No participants rated it as 'ok' or 'poor.'

Additional Workshop Sessions Attended.

In addition to the four core workshops attended above, participants had also attended the following additional topics.

- Home Detox/cleaning (5)
- Tank cleaning (2)
- Rainwater tank (2)

One participant did not state what else they had attended.

Overall all of the participants rated the above workshops as being 'excellent' or 'good' in terms of both content and presentation.

Behaviour Changes

The evaluation of this workshop included specific questions about behaviour shift. The first of these related to whether participants had completed the 'Take Action Page' in their workshop folder and what actions they had taken as a result of the workshop

A. Energy

Completion of take action page in energy section

Participants were asked if they had completed the "Take Action" page in their folder. Four participants stated they had, one said partially and one did not respond.

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page. Five participants reported implementing some changes, while one reported many changes.

Use of Energy Bag items

Participants were asked to indicate which of the items from the Energy Bag they had used.

- Thermometer: All participants had used their thermometer
- Light bulbs: 5/6 had used the light bulbs
- Shower timer: Two thirds (4/6) had used the shower timer
- Remote power point: All had used the remote power point

Use of energy usage meter

Participants were asked if they had used the energy use meter. Only two reported using it, with a further two commenting that they had found it too difficult.

Reduction in of daily electricity use (as per the bill)

Participants were asked if they had noticed a reduction in their household electricity usage. One stated they had while the other five said "not yet"

B. Waste

Targets for waste reduction and recycling documented.

Only two participants reported setting any targets for waste and recycling and documented these.

Implementation of changes:

In respect of the above targets, three participants reported implementing some changes, one stated they had implemented many changes and one stated they had implemented none.

Use of shopping bags:

All six participants reported using their shopping bags.

Composting of organic waste:

All participants reported composting their organic waste.

Reduction of waste in the household

All participants were asked if they had reduced the amount of waste in their household and by how much. Half of the participants reported that they had reduced the waste in their homes and gave figures of between 20% and 30%

C. Biodiversity

Completion of take action page in biodiversity section

Participants were asked if they had completed the "Take Action" page in their folder. Only one participant stated they had, while the remaining five had not

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page. Four participants reported implementing some changes, two did not respond.

Planting of native plants

Participants were asked if they had planted additional native plants in their garden, two stated they had, three had not and one did not respond.

D. Transport

Completion of take action page in transport section

Participants were asked if they had completed the "Take Action" page in their folder. Only one participant stated they had, while the remaining five had not

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page, Two participants reported implementing some changes, two stated they had implemented no changes and two did not respond.

Choice of transport

Participants were asked if they were choosing a means of transport other than single person car trips, more often. Half of participants stated they were.

E. Other behaviour changes.

Participants were asked to describe any other changes they had made as a result of the Living Smart course. They described the following

- *Thinking more about my behavior*
- *Mind more open*
- *Just conscious of the subjects we have covered*
- *Car pooling page on Facebook*
- *Looking into sola hot water system*
- *Turning off lights*
- *Checked fridge and freezer temperatures*

Participants were asked how much the course had affected their behaviour at home. Half (50%) of participants stated they 'changed a lot' while the other 50% stated it had changed 'some.' No participants reported 'little' or 'no change.'

Recommendation of the program

All six participants stated they would recommend the course to others and wrote the following recommendations

- *And I am still learning.*
- *Look at the outcomes of previous programs and use them as the selling point.*
- *This course opens your eyes and offers options to becoming more sustainable within your own family.*
- *Let people know about savings you can make in electricity and encourage them to compost.*
- *A very worthwhile well presented program. A pity it is not better patronized.*
- *A huge thank you and congratulations to the wonderful presenters.*

Our Living Coast is in the process of making significant shifts in the community education program to orient it more towards behaviour change and to measure this change. While the numbers in this four part Living Smart program were low, the changes that people made were substantial and well documented.

Our Living Coast
Living Smart Eungai Creek
21st August 2011

Introduction.

This workshop was held on the 21st of August 2011 with the Eungai Creek Group. Twelve participants completed the evaluation form, all of whom were from the Nambucca Shire.

Results of the evaluation

Overall Satisfaction

Participants were asked to rate their level of satisfaction on a scale from “very satisfied” to “unsatisfied”. Ten out of the twelve stated they were very satisfied while two stated they were satisfied.

The reasons given included the following:

- Lots of valuable information/resources.
- Lots of info all very practical and good networking within the local community.
- Excellent coordinator, excellent guest speakers and valuable info given.
- Very proactive and hands on approach of information, it was great.
- It's free, the giveaways are great and the information is very useful.
- Very informative.
- Informative and well organised.
- Relevant info.
- Very informative, interesting and fun.
- The input was great but was unable to make some sessions.

Individual Program sessions

Participants were asked to rate the individual sessions in terms of their content and presentation . The results are as follows.

Energy

Content: Eleven out of the twelve participants rated the workshop content as excellent and 1/12 as good. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Presentation: Eleven out of the twelve participants rated the workshop presentation as excellent and 1/12 as good. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Waste

Content: Ten out of twelve participants rated the workshop content as excellent and the remaining two as good. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Presentation: Three quarters (9/12) also rated the workshop presentation as excellent and two as good. One did not provide a rating No participants rated it as ok or poor

Transport

Content: Ten out of twelve participants rated the workshop content as excellent and the remaining two as good. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Presentation: Over half (7/12) of the participants rated the workshop presentation as excellent and 2/12 as good. Three did not attend or did not rate No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Biodiversity

Content: Two thirds (8/12) rated the workshop content as excellent, and 2/12 as good. Two did not attend or did not rate this workshop. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Presentation: Two thirds (8/12) rated the workshop presentation as excellent, and 1/12 as good. Three did not attend or did not rate this workshop. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Additional Workshops.

In addition to the four core workshops attended above, participants had also attended the following additional topics.

- Home Detox/natural cleaning
- Rainwater tanks
- Water tank maintenance
- Composting and worm farming

Overall all of the participants rated the above workshops as being excellent or good in terms of both content and presentation.

Ongoing Changes

Completion of Take Action page in energy section

Participants were asked if they had completed the "Take Action" page in their folder. Five of the twelve participants stated they had, while seven had not.

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page. Three quarters (8/12) of participants reported implementing some changes, while the remaining one quarter reported many changes.

Use of Energy Bag items

Participants were asked to indicate which of the items from the Energy Bag they had used.

- Thermometer: 9/12 had used the thermometer
- Light bulbs: 8/12 had used the light bulbs
- Shower timer: 7/12 had used the shower timer
- Remote power point: 8/12 had used the remote power point

Use of energy usage meter

Participants were asked if they had used the energy use meter. All but one (11/12) reported using it

Reduction in of daily electricity use (as per the bill)

Participants were asked if they had noticed a reduction in their household electricity usage. Two stated they had, while the other ten said “not yet”

Targets for waste reduction and recycling documented.

Five participants reported setting targets for waste and recycling and documented these, while seven had not done this.

Implementation of changes:

In respect of the above targets, nine participants reported implementing some changes, two stated they had implemented many changes and one stated they had implemented none.

Use of shopping bags:

Eleven of the twelve participants reported using their shopping bags.

Composting of organic waste:

Three quarters (9/12) of participants reported composting their organic waste.

Reduction of waste in the household

All participants were asked if they had reduced the amount of waste in their household and by how much. Two thirds (8/12) of participants reported that they had reduced the waste in their homes. Of these four reported a reduction of 10%, two of 20%, one of 30% and one was unsure

Completion of take action page in biodiversity section

Participants were asked if they had completed the “Take Action” page in their folder. Five participants stated they had, while the seven of the twelve had not.

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page. Seven participants reported implementing some changes, two felt they had implemented many changes and one had implemented no changes. one did not respond.

Planting of native plants

Participants were asked if they had planted additional native plants in their garden, ten of the twelve participants stated they had, while two had not.

Completion of Take Action page in transport section

Participants were asked if they had completed the "Take Action" page in their folder. Only four participants stated they had, while the remaining eight had not.

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page. Four participants reported implementing some changes, and one reported many changes however half (6/12) implemented no changes. One did not respond

Choice of transport

Participants were asked if they were choosing a means of transport other than single person car trips, more often Fifty percent (6/12) of participants stated they were. Five were not and one did not respond

Other changes.

Participants were asked to describe any other changes they had made as a result of the Living Smart course. They described the following:

- More aware of personal responsibility to make a difference
- Just a general awareness where most practical
- Raised consciousness of energy usage and toxix products like plastic
- Thinking about electric or hybrid car for the future
- Ways to store water
- Ways to heat our house and purify our indoor air
- Rethinking the compact fluro globe situation
- Telling friends to never clean their water tanks themselves
- Less use of wood fire and gas heating
- Will be getting a detox audit of house especially in regard to air quality and milder issues
- Turn off power points
- Compost kitchen waste
- Walk more
- Reducing electricity consumption (2)
- Using less chemical for cleaning
- More awareness of energy usage
- Shorter showers

- Changing my cleaning regime
- More aware of cutting down waste when shopping

Behaviour change at home

Participants were asked how much the course had affected their behaviour at home. Five reported a lot of changes; six stated they had made some changes, and one reported a little change.

Recommendation of the program

All thirteen participants stated they would recommend the course to others and wrote the following recommendations

- We found this program very useful and informative – lots of interaction and resources.
- The program helped put together a total picture of the way we can bring about improved environmental outcomes in our home and the wider community. Pia and the other presenters did a great job and were both informative and motivational.
- I thought I knew all about these topicsand found out I had much to learn! Thank you Pia.
- This program really helps make individuals think about what they can do in their everyday lives to help the planet.
- Living smart workshops have given me practical, easily incorporated ways to reduce my energy usage.
- Very informative and good explanations.
- Easy to implement, practical help to reduce our environmental damage.
- A program relevant to ordinary householders who are keen to make a difference.
- This course should be compulsory for all families especially for young people setting up their first home. This gave community Members an opportunity and a forum to discuss environmental matters and so share knowledge.
- A great chance to meet likeminded people and learn what we can do to help our world.

Our Living Coast
Living Smart Scotts Head
27th August 2011

Introduction.

This workshop was held on the 27th of August 2011 with the Scotts Head Group. Thirteen participants completed the evaluation form, all of whom were from the Nambucca Shire.

Results of the evaluation**Overall Satisfaction**

Participants were asked to rate their level of satisfaction on a scale from “very satisfied” to “unsatisfied”. Eleven out of thirteen stated they were very satisfied while two stated they were satisfied.

The reasons given included the following:

- Each session provided extra information we were unaware of presented in an interesting manner.
- Good diversity of topics and presenters
- Information good and helpful.
- Good information, well presented.
- Good selection of guest speakers.
- Good presentation-easy understanding
- Interesting session, lots of information.
- Wide range of subjects, well run
- Well resourced.
- We liked it.
- Pia made it very enjoyable.
- Good content, learnt a lot.
- Nice group of people.
- Provided new ideas and initiatives for practicing sustainability- the home.

Individual Program sessions

Participants were asked to rate the individual sessions in terms of their content and presentation . The results are as follows.

Energy

Content: Almost half of participants (6/13) rated the workshop content as excellent and 5/13 as good, two did not attend this session. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Presentation: Over one third (5/13) rated the workshop presentation as excellent and 6/13 as good, two did not attend this session. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Waste

Content: Almost half (6/13) rated the workshop content as excellent and 5/13 as good. Two did not attend the session or did not provide a rating. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Presentation: Almost half (6/13) also rated the workshop presentation as excellent the same number as good. No participants rated it as ok or poor

Transport

Content: Three of the thirteen participants rated the workshop content as excellent, and 5/13 as good. Two felt the content was ok and three did not attend or did not rate No participants rated it as poor

Presentation: Three of the thirteen participants rated the workshop presentation as excellent and 6/13 as good. One felt the presentation was ok and three did not attend or did not rate No participants rated it as poor.

Biodiversity

Content: Almost 50% (6/13) rated the workshop content as excellent, and 4/13 as good. Three did not attend or did not rate this workshop. No participants rated it as ok or poor.

Presentation: Over half (7/13) rated the workshop presentation as good and 4/13 as excellent. One did not rate the workshop. No participants rated it as ok or poor

Additional Workshops.

In addition to the four core workshops attended above, participants had also attended the following additional topics.

- Home Detox/cleaning
- Composting and gardening
- Organic gardening
- Growing food

Overall all of the participants rated the above workshops as being excellent or good in terms of both content and presentation. With the exception of one person who felt the detox workshop was "ok" in both content and presentation.

Ongoing Changes

Completion of Take Action page in energy section

Participants were asked if they had completed the "Take Action" page in their folder. Eleven of the twelve participants who attended that session stated they had, while one had not.

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page, Eight participants reported implementing some changes, while two reported many changes. Three participants stated they had not implemented changes (though one indicated their newly built home had many energy saving features already in place).

Use of Energy Bag items

Participants were asked to indicate which of the items from the Energy Bag they had used. (Note one participant did not receive the bag).

- Thermometer: 9/12 had used the thermometer
- Light bulbs: 8/12 had used the light bulbs
- Shower timer: 8/12 had used the shower timer
- Remote power point: 5/12 had used the remote power point

Use of energy usage meter

Participants were asked if they had used the energy use meter. Only four reported using it

Reduction in of daily electricity use (as per the bill)

Participants were asked if they had noticed a reduction in their household electricity usage. Two stated they had , two had not while the other nine said “not yet”

Targets for waste reduction and recycling documented.

Five participants reported setting targets for waste and recycling and documented these, while seven had not done this. One did not respond.

Implementation of changes:

In respect of the above targets, eleven participants reported implementing some changes, one stated they had implemented many changes and one stated they had implemented none.

Use of shopping bags:

Ten of the thirteen participants reported using their shopping bags.

Composting of organic waste:

All but one participant (12/13) reported composting their organic waste.

Reduction of waste in the household

All participants were asked if they had reduced the amount of waste in their household and by how much. Eleven of the thirteen participants reported that they had reduced the waste in their homes. Of these six reported a reduction of 10%, two of 20%, one of 30% and one reported a 50% reduction.

Completion of take action page in biodiversity section

Participants were asked if they had completed the "Take Action" page in their folder. Four participants stated they had, while the eight of the thirteen had not. One stated they did not receive the folder.

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page. Seven participants reported implementing some changes, three felt they had implemented many changes and two had implemented no changes. Two did not respond.

Planting of native plants

Participants were asked if they had planted additional native plants in their garden, nine of the thirteen stated they had, while four had not.

Completion of take action page in transport section

Participants were asked if they had completed the "Take Action" page in their folder. Only four participants stated they had, while the eight had not, one did not attend the Transport workshop and therefore did not answer.

Implementation of changes

Participants were asked if they had implemented any changes in respect of the above Take Action page. Four participants reported implementing some changes, however the majority (8/13) implemented no changes.

Choice of transport

Participants were asked if they were choosing a means of transport other than single person car trips, more often. Over half (7/13) of participants stated they were.

Other changes.

Participants were asked to describe any other changes they had made as a result of the Living Smart course. They described the following:

- A greater appreciation of local biodiversity.
- Started reading the contents of skin care.
- Increased discussion with friends re topics.
- Much more aware all round.

- Consolidation of several small trips into less frequent slightly longer trip. Saving electricity and saving household waste and transport. Most changes were made previous to the course.
- Passing on tips to friends.

Behaviour change at home

Participants were asked how much the course had affected their behaviour at home. Over half (8/13) of participants stated they changed some of their behaviours, two stated it had changed their behaviour. Two reported a little change and one stated they had not changed at all.

Recommendation of the program

All thirteen participants stated they would recommend the course to others and wrote the following recommendations

- Join in with your community and get a heap of ideas on how you can have an impact!!
- An informative program, I encourage everyone to be engaged it.
- Good diversity of topics and presenters, great reference handouts
- It's very informative and environmentally productive
- .
- Very enjoyable as it was presented in a way we could all understand.
- Enjoyable, informative and a good friendly community way to improve things-thanks.
- Very interesting, it will open your eyes to our waste and damage we all do to our environment.
- I was already sustainability minded but the course provided lots of ways of doing sustainable things.
- Very sound advice.
- Made me aware of alternatives that were in many instances cheaper or cost effective.
- Reiterates the need for the "converted" and opens eyes of people new to concept.

Part F. Sustainability Hub Supplementary Data

Our Living Coast Sustainable Living Festival - Raw Data

Introduction

The following contains the results of an evaluation of the Coffs Harbour Sustainable Living Festival, attended by over 5000 people in November 2012

Summary of results

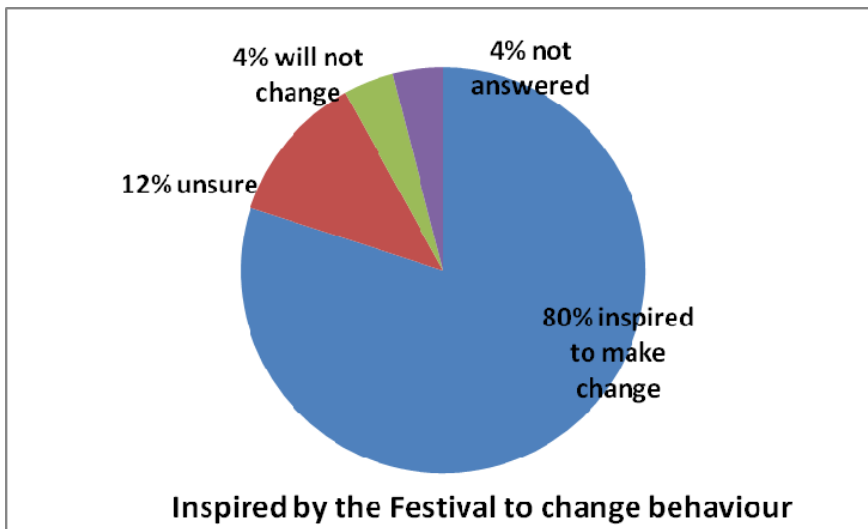
One hundred and ninety four participants in the festival completed evaluation forms; almost 4% of the attendees. One hundred and sixty nine of these people lived in Coffs Harbour [87%] and most heard about the Festival through the local newspaper [61%].

There were a large number of reasons given for attending the Festival but most related to having a good day out and/or learning more about sustainability.

There was a high level of satisfaction with the event



The Festival inspired people to change behaviour for sustainability



Nominated behaviour changes included

- Spend more time on the vegie garden. +4
- Plant more local natives.
- Grow even more of our own produce and reduce dependence on supermarkets.
- I'm always keen to try new things.
- To live out in the bush.
- Make better compost, soil. Save water etc. It seems a lot of help is available.
- Grow more food +3

Raw data

Total responses= 194

1. Which council area do you live in?

Coffs 169
 Bellingen 12
 Nambucca 4
 Other 8
 Not answered 1

2. How did you hear about the Festival?

OLC website19

 Word of mouth48

 Email7

 Local Paper118

255

Radio14

Other13(CROPPO, Flyer, Work, Mum; Coffs Gardens; Cycling; Botanical Garden; Partner; Mum & dad; Coffs for kids Facebook; School newsletter)

Not answered 0

3. Why did you come to today's festival?

- Great – well done
- To learn more about sustainable living +55
- I enjoy seeing this environmental change occurring in society.
- Information, fun day out +6
- Information about power saving and gardening and to see granddaughter's scarecrow.
- Environment for future info.
- I come every year – love it
- As a visitor to my son who lives here.
- To see Costa. +14
- Good info and to see Costa +5
- To see scarecrow, Costa and Dirt Girl. +2
- For kid to see scarecrow comp.
- To see scarecrows/solar panels.
- Bring the kids to see Dirt Girl. +2
- To see Dirt Girl and information. +2
- For a picnic.
- To learn about no dig gardens.
- Sounded like a great outing and program of events.
- Because it is an area I am interested in. Costa was also an interesting draw-card. +1
- Fun, culture, food +3
- To have a look and learn more +14
- Nice day out with kids. +3
- To bring visitors from Sydney.
- Interested in sustainability and the environment. +6
- Renewable energy is the future.
- To show daughter around Botanic gardens
- To show my children about the environment – saving (it) +2
- Solar energy displays and organic food production
- To learn about weeding natives.
- To discuss solar energy. +2
- To learn – see interpretive signs.
- As a Stall holder +1
- To learn about sustainability and meet the org. and authorities that work for it.

Our Living Coast Evaluation – Supplementary Report

- See stands/hear presentations. +3
- Love the Botanic Gardens +5
- Car pool
- Personal interest, support for our stall, Casuarina School.
- Love to garden, love solar and sustainability. +3
- To check out growing vegie patches and weed control.
- Great day out with friends in a great atmosphere.
- To see the Gardens, the solar options, the atmosphere. +1
- To get some garden information and solar power info. +2
- We love the environment. +2
- To have fun. +4
- Events and to find out how to be more energy efficient.
- For help in my garden. +3
- Have not been to the Botanic Gardens before.
- Attended last year, so good back again. +1
- To help the local community. + 3
- For freebies
- To investigate sustainable living opportunities. Because the bike man checked our bikes. To get a coffee. To check out the Gardens.
- To have a look and give daughter a different experience.
- Good experience for our kids. +1
- Family brought me.
- Bush tucker food
- Dragged by mum.
- Because my wife told me we were coming.
- *Not answered 7*

4. How satisfied were you?

Very satisfied 155

Satisfied 37

Unsure 2

Unsatisfied

Very unsatisfied

Not answered 0

Why

- Lots of interesting talk and music. +7
- It's fantastic – awesome +3
- Well organised - great day. +11

- Great communication
- It was back where it was originally
- Great information +15
- Down to earth. +1
- Received info on solar.
- Location – front of Gardens. +1
- Info, sun, food, music. +2
- It’s a great community event and great for kids and free. +5
- More to see and hear than anticipated.
- Had questions answered. +1
- So much happening around Coffs that many wouldn’t know about.
- Met my expectations
- Information, great community atmosphere. +6
- Variety of stalls – speakers. +10
- Learnt more. +1
- So much to see, do, think about. +2
- Very inspiring, open conversations, lots of ideas, rich program. +4
- Enlightening, glad to see amount of awareness.
- Interesting information, sustainability, great location. +8
- Great talk by Costa. +6
- Costa suggested some innovative ways of planting. CROPPO gave advice.
- Fun – loved the gardens, and Costa appeared!
- (Satisfied) Need smaller ideas for home.
- (Unsure) Not much depth in exhibits.
- (No) Already trying where I can.
- The energy and information is infectious and helpful.
- Something for everyone +2
- Best atmosphere and music. +1
- Bush tucker walk very good.
- Lots to see, learn, helpful people at the stalls. +6
- Meet new people
- Get people out and about.
- Great choice of suppliers.
- *Not answered 50*

5. Has today inspired you to do anything differently in your life?

Yes 156

Unsure 23

No 8

Not answered 7

Why

- Great ideas, passionate speakers. +5
- Climate changes.
- Costa +1
- The stalls
- (No) Already inspired, totally committed. +6
- Always looking to improve. +2
- I want a solar system even more. +1
- Solar energy. +3
- We have to change - now. +1
- Because there is no time to waste.
- The garden beds composting +3
- To come again
- Health. +1
- Just respect the earth
- To help our world and to do something for its conservation. +3
- Love the plastic raised garden beds
- Keep up the permaculture
- Life is great – get out there!
- Because we can all do a little more
- Reinforced the core ideas of sustainability. +1
- Speak to more people
- It's important to save our planet.
- Necessity – the world is in need of enlightenment.
- Garden more. +4
- Spend more time on the vegie garden. +4
- Plant more local natives.
- Grow even more of our own produce and reduce dependence on supermarkets.
- I'm always keen to try new things.
- To live out in the bush.
- Make better compost, soil. Save water etc. It seems a lot of help is available.
- Grow more food +3
- Variety and all the advice and free pamphlets. +1
- Weed control.
- Because I've retired and have time.
- Be water wise. +1
- No dig garden
- Helping us consider ways of making a living in the future.
- More composting. +1
- Electricity bills rising conserve energy. +4
- Good advice changed our minds.
- Better prepared +4

- Go oven greener
- Be more conscious of waste.
- To save money and be healthier
- Live green.
- Become more involved. Try harder. +1
- The Truth.
- Importance of recycling and sustainability. +1
- *Not answered 70*

6. What has been your favourite aspect of the event?

- Plant information and for sale. +3
- Everything +27
- The information. +1
- Information re local food alliance and power saving.
- Displays and stalls. +12
- Gardening +4
- Bush tucker walk. +2
- Costa + 41
- Costa so eager for life and all things living. +4
- Costa's cool
- Dirt Girl +2
- The kids' things to do +2
- The scarecrow my daughter helped make.
- The music. Aboriginal group was amazing. + 9
- Craft
- Drinks with friends
- I liked the Indigenous music and the tasty local food products (native) +2
- Friendly people and learning +16
- Talks on weeds etc. +4
- Just being outdoors
- Learning how to remove weeds from stones.
- Talks on citrus growing
- Sense of community spirit +4
- Kids entertainment and useful information. +1
- The beautiful Gardens– location. +8
- The talks – great day. +1
- No-dig garden. +1
- Recycle plastic garbage bins.
- Relaxation. Good, mellow crowd, fun for kids. +5
- Same type of people mingling with others. +1
- This solar offer
- Solar power info. +2

260

- Sky lighting/music
- Environmental issues
- Recycle tent
- Seeing my kids learn.
- Music, workshops, competitions.
- Coffs Community Garden
- Seeing the growing awareness of children and business in the local area.
- *Not answered 17*

Our Living Coast Evaluation – Supplementary Report

Sustainable Living Festival Workshops

The following table provides evaluative data from the Workshops conducted as a part of the Coffs Coast Sustainable Living Festival 2012.

In Summary:

- 101 people attended eight Workshops held during the festival and evaluated.
- The Workshops drove significant intention to change. At all workshops apart from one, in excess of 75% of participants indicated and intention to change their behaviour as a result of the Workshop. At three Workshops data indicated that more than 90% will change behaviour.
- All Workshops were well evaluated. Two comments only indicated that the content was ‘too basic.’ In all other cases participants indicated that they were ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ with the content.
- The facilitation of the Workshops was highly valued by the participants.
- The following comments represented the participant’s views: *fantastic, super excellent, great*. No negative views were expressed.

Name	Workshop	Description	Evaluation
Ian Hazell: Organic farming teacher for North Coast TAFE, Coffs Harbour	Greater success at vegetable growing through understanding your soil	How to look after soil so that fertility increases and quality and quantity of vegetables improves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attending: 12 • Those who will change: 75% • Satisfaction: all ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ • Content: all ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’. Comments: <i>fairly basic, good, excellent</i> • Facilitator: all ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’. Comments: <i>OK, good, excellent</i>
Nigel Cotsell: Senior Biodiversity Officer, Coffs Harbour City Council	Coffs Jaliigirr Project	Overview of Jaliigirr Biodiversity Inc. including representative organisations. For landholders: information on Coffs Jaliigirr Project, how properties are selected and expected outcomes. For native plant nurseries and bush regeneration groups: better understanding of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attending: 7 • Those who will change: 43% • Satisfaction: all ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ • Content: all ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’. Comments: <i>good, excellent</i> • Facilitator: all ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’. Comments: <i>good, excellent</i>

		project.	
Steve McGrane	Citrus and natural care in the home garden	History of citrus, suitability of varieties to the region, seasonal nutrient requirements, soil preparation, natural methods of pest management, and pruning and clay washing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attending: 33 • Those who will change: 91% • Satisfaction: majority 'very satisfied' • Content: majority 'very satisfied' – 3 were not. • Comments: <i>excellent, very good, too basic</i> • Facilitator: majority very satisfied. Comments: <i>excellent, great, good</i>
Rosa Mauvra	Sustainable Health: simple and affordable keys to restoring your health and wellbeing	Simple, affordable ways to care for yourself. Boost immunity and energy, improve digestion, mood and sleep.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attending: 8 • Those who will change: 100% • Satisfaction: all very satisfied • Content: all very satisfied. Comments: <i>fantastic, awesome, informative</i> • Facilitator: all very satisfied'. Comments: <i>fantastic, super excellent, great</i>
Rosa Mauvra	Wild Fermentation: culturing your inner ecosystem	Fermented food is a great medicinal tool, natural safe and easy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attending: 13 • Those who will change: 77% • Satisfaction: all 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' • Content: all very satisfied. Comments: <i>informative, helpful, great</i> • Facilitator: all satisfied. Comments: <i>good, great, informative</i>
Tien Pham:	"What does your garden grow?" Weed control strategies for the gardener	Learn about local weed problems, useful techniques for controlling weeds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attending: 7 • Those who will change: 86% • Satisfaction: all 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' • Content: majority very satisfied. Comments: <i>informative, excellent,</i> • Facilitator: all very satisfied. Comments: <i>clear, excellent,</i>
Gilbert Rochecouste: Managing	What Communities Can Do To Create	Draws on his recent experience in Copenhagen, Berlin and the UK, to reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attending: 16 • Those who will change: 75% • Satisfaction: all, except one, were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'

<p>Director, Village Well. He is recognised both nationally and internationally as a leading voice in sustainable communities and business.</p>	<p>Great Places</p>	<p>on the power of community to create great places to live, work and play in ways that support the cultural, social and environmental elements unique to each place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content: majority very satisfied. Comments: <i>interesting, excellent, inspiring</i> • Facilitator: majority extremely satisfied. Comments: <i>excellent, lively and engaging, world class, and handsome</i>
<p>Aleasa Williams:</p>	<p>Permaculture</p>	<p>Up to date information about permaculture and how to integrate into your backyard.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attending: 5 • Those who will change: 100% • Satisfaction: all very satisfied • Content: all very satisfied. Comments: <i>enlightening, excellent,</i> • Facilitator: all very satisfied. Comments: <i>excellent, informative</i>

Our Living Coast Website Report

Introduction

Attached to this paper are three charts compiled using Google Analytics software to analyse the data related to the Our Living Coast website.

1. Number of people who visited

The top three peak numbers for people visiting in any one month were :

Rank	Month	Number	Possible influencing factors
1.	Oct 2011	878	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
2.	Nov 2011	852	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
3.	Feb 2012	688	Healthy Homes facebook prize

The monthly average over the 24 months was 413 people.

The following factors may have influenced the peaks and troughs :

Jan 2011 an increase of 65 % on the previous month could be due to a gradual build up of media articles and paid advertising taken out in Nov / Dec 2010 for Living Smart. Jan 2011 also coincided with our four part Discovery Ranger tours put on in conjunction with NPWS.

June and July 2011 a decrease of 37 % from the previous months could be due to the gap between resignation of our household project officer in June and Elle commencing in August. No Living Smart / Healthy Homes workshops were conducted in these two months.

August 2011 an increase of 63 % on the previous month could be due to Elle commencing and immediately advertising information sessions for Healthy Homes.

Peaks in Oct / Nov 2011 are most likely to be due to the Coffs Harbour Sustainable Living Festival and the Healthy Homes workshops fully underway.

The high in Feb 2012 is almost certainly due to the Healthy Homes facebook competition.

The slight drops in June / July 2012 could be due to no Healthy Homes workshops being held in these months.

2. Number of page visits

The top three peak numbers for page visits in any one month were :

Rank	Month	Number	Possible influencing factors
1.	Oct 2011	3597	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
2.	Nov 2011	3117	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
3.	Feb 2012	2290	Healthy Homes facebook prize

The monthly average over the 24 months is 1570.

The top three above were closely followed by August 2011 with 2252. This could be due to recommencement of the advertising for Healthy Homes.

There was also a jump in Sept 2010 which could be related to the project launch late in that month.

It appears the peaks and lows for this category closely follows the number of people stats above in section one.

3. Returning visitors as a % of the total visitors

The set up months for the website essentially continued up until Dec 2010 and as a result the number of returning visitors was very high until this month and reflects work being done by our content and website administrators.

Since then our returning visitors has consistently stayed in the band 26 to 35 % with about 30 % being the average.

The highs in June / July 2011 could be repeat visits by people looking for the Healthy Homes workshop information which wasn't loaded until August 2011.

4. Most visited pages.

An analysis of our most popular pages reveals the following :

Page title	Number of months	Number of months ranked no. 2	Number of months in top 10

	ranked no. 1		
Home page	23	1	24
Category / Events		17	23
Sustainable Living Guide			22
State of the Environment Reporting			16
SLG – avoid eating endangered fish		1	13
Household program			12
About OLC			12
What you can do			12
SLF	1	2	7
Post an event			6
News win a solar prize		2	3
News ask your local fishmonger		1	1

Part G. Transport Supplementary Data



Council in - house council projects

What project were you responsible for managing?

I am the Project Coordinator for the new regional Carpool Mid North Coast Website www.carpoolmnc.org which covers the region from Coffs Harbour Local Government Area, south to the Great Lakes LGA. With the assistance of Coffs Harbour City Council's Road Safety Officer, Anne Shearer we have liaised with Jim Downey from OLC and the various other shareholders to get this website up and functioning.

The funding for the establishment of the Carpool Mid North Coast Website Project has been provided by Transport for NSW, together with the 'Our Living Coast' grant for sustainable transport initiatives.

The organisations involved in our project follow:

- Transport for NSW
- Our Living Coast
- Coffs Harbour City Council
- Bellingen Shire Council
- Nambucca Shire Council
- Kempsey Shire Council
- Port Macquarie / Hastings Council
- Gloucester Shire Council
- Greater Taree City Council
- Great Lakes Shire Council
- Mid North Coast Local Health District
- Southern Cross University
- North Coast Institute of TAFE



^ Carpool MNC Community Launch conga Line – 5 May 2012

The concept initially started from the Northern Rivers Carpool Project back in 2009. We share the same back end of the database with them but they own the copyright. Our shared site is now being considered in other communities as well which are located on the NSW south coast, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory. The Western Sydney Carpool is run separately but is of the same ilk and is also a model for new sites. The issue with the current set up is that every new site that is established pays a \$5,000 product fee to NRCP, when all, including NRCP, were initially funded by grant monies. It would worth considering in the future to place the ownership in the hands of TfNSW to fully oversee all current and future projects.

Carpool MNC has been launched in a wave of events, both internally and externally, for example: University ‘O’Day in February 2012; various internal partner launches from March 2012; to the wider community 5 May 2012 at the MNC General Managers Meeting in Bellingen; MNCLHD Health Campus’ launches held at Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie; and the Coffs Harbour Sustainability Festival during the Botanica Spring Fair on 5 November 2012.



^ MNC Mayors at Bellingen Launch

We plan to have another wave of launches from February 2013. Initiatives to encourage people to register with us, have been and still are \$50 Caltex StarCash* Cards; which have been given away randomly during each launch cycle. TfNSW secured a further \$20,000 funding to develop iPhone and Android Applications for the website (jointly for all currently established sites – WSCP, NRCP, CPMNC). These are in the final stages of development, and next year we will have prizes of an iPad and an Android Tablet to celebrate the new apps up for grabs for new registrants.

What is its current status?

Currently Carpool MNC has 168 registered members. Collectively with the Northern Rivers site we have 1,198 registered members. Considering that they have been operating for three consecutive years; we can expect our numbers to increase similarly with ongoing regular promotion. Carpool signs that are brand recognisable have been installed across the communities of the MNC. Southern Cross University’s Coffs Campus has quite a number of signs installed. As well, MNCLHD have had a solid push for the website and similarly have a bulk number of signage installed at their health centres.



Several months ago, NRCP issued a Survey to all registrants of both sister sites. The results were collated and showed some disappointing trends that people were not communicating fully and matches were not easily being made. We have been looking at ways to implement better communication between users, which include: previous contact data to be shown ie: deemed suitable/unsuitable by the user previously; monthly generated emails to inform of news and events; new Events Page (for Event Organisers to advertise and cross reference our site and their event).

What are the benefits of your project to a more sustainable Coffs Coast?

Our site is a member of the Coffs Connect website and our aim is to encourage community members to carpool. The end result would be to cut down on greenhouse gas emissions, less vehicle congestion on our roads, easier CBD etc. parking; as well as strengthening the bonds between like minded community members. It may encourage people to step outside the box and make new friends; and has been referred to previously as being like a dating website for transport matches. Sustainability does not come from just one aspect, but from the many trying to achieve similar goals.

What barriers did you meet along the way?

As mentioned in the previous point, it can be difficult to encourage people to step outside the box and experience a new way of doing and thinking.

I have found in talking to people that most of them love the idea of the carpool, but jumping in can be a huge step. The difficulty comes when trying to get them to take the plunge and join up and then again to actually contact a stranger.



What impact, if any has your project had on other Council staff?

The feedback has been good; probably not as many have joined as we would have liked judging from the feedback, but steady just the same. Our General Manager has been behind the project all of the way and has encouraged fellow G.M.'s to do the same. Please note the flyer that was sent to all staff to the right.

Our very own super hero SustainoGirl was championing all things sustainable and getting people talking.



MNCLHD has had excellent promotion of the website with their various campus' launches and getting the message out via newsletters to their staff; as well as the many TAFE Campus' of the Mid North Coast that promote to their colleagues as well as students. This has been demonstrated in the number of registrants that are linked to each discerning group.



**It's time to jump into the pool, the
CAR POOL!**

Dear Staff,

Sustainability is a core responsibility for our organisation and an integral part of how we do business. It is therefore important to consider all of the opportunities that you have in your work day- no matter what your position is- for enacting change for sustainability.

One great place to start is to consider different ways of getting to work. If walking, public transport or biking are not suitable options, what about car pooling? The carpool mid-north-coast website is a great place to link up with car pooling pals.

As the CHCC **S Team** says **YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CREATE CHANGE!**

See you in the pool!

Steve McGrath

General Manager, CHCC

Visit: www.carpoolmnc.org

Contact the Carpool Coordinator Katie Austin

katie.austin@chcc.nsw.gov.au

What evidence is there that this project was important to Council/the community?

It is very early days at this stage for our website, but as registrant numbers grow, so too will the likelihood of matches between likeminded commuters. We have been encouraging Council's and other event organisers to upload their event details to the site and get the cross promotion working for each party. We even had a groom put in a link to he and his bride's nuptials at The Promised Land (near Bellingen but quite isolated) hoping that their guests would assist each other by carpooling to their wedding.

What evidence exists that Councils are more focused on sustainability as a result of the Our Living Coast project?

It is clear that sustainability has now come to the forefront of people’s attitudes. Sustainability is not just a concept, but is a mindset, and it will improve with mentoring, suggestions and initiatives that are shown to improve the way of life for ourselves, our children and future communities.

In working on this project, one of the hurdles was dealing with so many different organisations. All are extremely busy in their own jobs and, no doubt to most, the carpool website was an extra burden to their

workloads. However, many have put in great efforts in the running of their own launches and have thought of great promotional ideas. Greater Taree City Council’s cake was too good to cut; and The Great Lakes Council had a Guessing Competition which involved toy cars and trucks submersed in a fish tank full of jelly. Prizes and coffee vouchers were awarded to the closest guesses.

That's not how you carpool....



How many cars are in the pool?
Place your guess in the entry box in the staff lunchroom (Forster) before 1st June to win sweet sweet prizes.

Winners (and answers) will be announced at a free morning tea for all staff on the 1st June.

Anyone who carools to work on that day is an absolute legend and will be treated as such at the morning tea.

More pictures in the General Folder or visit the staff lunchroom for a closeup.

This is:
www.carpoolmnc.org




Any final comments?

This initiative will find its merits in the years to come. With country transport issues being how they are currently, with no real improvement in sight; carpooling can start to be recognised as a viable alternative. Carpooling has been a common sight on American roads for some years now with designated transport lanes, assigned parking etc. With the price of petrol set to continue rising, as well as other associated travel costs,

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people will start to look at ways of saving through their daily/weekly movements. Sustainability concepts such as carpooling will be considered more seriously in the future.

Katie Austin Carpool MNC Project Coordinator

Part H. Small Business Project Supplementary Data

Our Living Coast Small Business and Sustainability Report

Jim Downey

“Serious problems are raised for educators when seeking to design and deliver environmental education for small business as they are a disparate group that seek individualised and specific attention.” See Redmond and Walker below.

Background

The Our Living Coast program is a regional sustainability initiative being jointly delivered by Coffs Harbour City Council, Bellingen Shire Council and Nambucca Shire Council. The project is grant funded for 3 years by the NSW Environmental Trust and commenced in Nov 2009. The final report is due 31 Jan 2013.

At its inception, the project budget originally contained an amount of \$74,000 for the rollout of a small business sustainability project in each of the three Council areas. Following internal discussions and external consultations, both Coffs Harbour City Council and Nambucca Shire Council decided not to proceed with a small business project. This was based on past difficulties experienced in this area together with a lack of resources to carry out such a project.

Accordingly the project was confined to businesses within Bellingen Shire Council and the budget amended to \$24,600 for this purpose.

Bellingen Project

Project one centred on two aspects of sustainability: plastic bags use and energy efficiency. Business were approached as follows :

1. The Our Living Coast project officer approached a small business asking whether they would sign up to the Bellingen Plastic Bag Free campaign being run by The Bellingen EYE : Environmental Youth Experience. In return for signing up they received a Bellingen EYE shopfront window plaque for display.
2. At the time of the plastic bag free approach the same businesses were asked if they wished to participate in the Our Living Coast Small Business Energy Efficiency project. This project offered businesses a subsidised energy audit (the audit cost the business \$75 only) after registration with the NSW Government’s Small Business Energy Efficiency Program. An energy efficiency assessor visited the business and the business was provided with a report and a set of recommendations.

Our Living Coast would provide up to \$300 for installation of energy efficiency measures, such as lighting, draught proofing etc.

The NSW State Government would provide up to \$5,000 on a 50 / 50 matched funding basis where the pay back period is less than 2 years. The amount provided was dependent on the size of the electricity bills being incurred.

Project results

In total 61 small business within the Shire of Bellingen were approached asking whether they would like to be involved (see appendix 1). Of these :

- 31 businesses expressed initial interest;
- 15 businesses were signed up to support the plastic bag free Bellingen campaign;
- 9 businesses had an energy audit conducted;
- 2 businesses successfully applied for funding from Our Living Coast for amounts up to \$300 for energy efficiency measures;
- 3 businesses successfully applied to the State Government SBEEP project for amounts up to \$5,000.

Related to these project results the project officer resigned mid project and significant floods affected many of the businesses in the period we were conducting the business project.

Project Conclusions

These results were considered by the Our Living Coast (OLC) project team to be disappointing.

In response, it was agreed between the program evaluator Grahame Collier of T Issues Consultancy and the OLC project supervisor Jim Downey that the OLC project team would conduct a small literature research project which attempts to compare the Our Living Coast project outcomes and experience to conclusions from other studies that have looked at engaging small business in sustainability.

Small Business and Sustainability – Research results

A literature search reveals there is a lot of information regarding engagement of small business in sustainability programs. A sample of these is discussed below.

Dee,J. (2010) *Sustainable Growth. Small Business Big Opportunity*

This publication reports on the Net Balance / AFS SME Sustainability Index which was compiled from interviews with 800 decision makers from firms who employ 5 to 199 people. This article establishes some of the barriers in raising sustainability on the SME agenda.

When asked which challenges they considered a major concern for their businesses, compliance and economic issues scored highest :

- maintaining revenues – 74 %
- finding the right talent for your industry – 70 %

- meeting government regulations – 55 %.

Over 60 % did not consider energy efficiency a major concern when it came to saving money. Only one third had a major concern about managing their waste. (This would be interesting to do a comparative study in Australia now that the carbon tax is in.)

This research also showed that while 72 % of SMEs indicated they thought their business was environmentally friendly, an analysis of actions they were actually taking revealed that only 15 % were undertaking relevant activities that would support their claim.

Redmond.J and Walker E. (2009)*Environmental Education in Small Business : The Owner- Manager's Perspective. Australian Journal of Environmental Education, vol. 25, 2009.*

This paper cites various references which looked at the difficulties of engaging small business in sustainability. There is evidence that business discounts the environment as their core business;

“.....many small businesses consider the environment to be a peripheral rather than a core business issue and that they do not perceive that they have a significant impact on the environment...”

This paper goes on to claim that “small businesses are continuing to fly under the radar when it comes to them being actively engaged in the debate regarding the need for them to change any poor environmental behaviour in their businesses.” Whilst considerable effort has been made to determine the best way to engage small businesses in environmental management

“a recent study has shown that small business owner-managers support education as the best strategy to reduce negative environmental impacts within the sector. Paradoxically, it is also known that small business owner-managers are usually wary of formal education and training, are less likely to train staff than large businesses and view training of any sort as a cost and not an investment. ”

What this article goes on to suggest is that the Our Living Coast project approach to engaging businesses in Bellingen was a sound aspiration yet there is evidence of reasons for their lack of engagement..“ Small business’ engagement in environmental management practices is vital as it is currently estimated that small businesses are contributing up to 70% of global pollution. Yet many small businesses have not engaged or only do so to the extent of compliance. ”

Another pointer is that some of the difficulties experienced by the project officer are symptomatic of this area of activity. “ Serious problems are raised for educators when seeking to design and deliver environmental education for small business as they are a disparate group that seek individualised and specific attention.”

Lucas, Trevor; Cunningham, Robert; and Lamberton, Geoff (2009) *Small Business Engagement with Sustainability in Regional Australia, Journal of Economic and Social Policy : Vol.13:Iss 1, Article 3.*

This study draws on a random sample of 195 small business owners and managers in ten communities within the Far North Coast region of New South Wales.

“ Similar to UK studies this research found only minimal evidence of small business social and environmental responsibility and there was no correlation with business success. The conclusion in the UK studies was that self-interest alone is insufficient, necessitating Government intervention compelling business to engage in socially and environmentally responsible actions.”

“ Whilst there were a significant proportion of small businesses reporting socially and environmentally responsible actions in the study, these are very much at the low end of sustainability performance. Recycling was the only commonly cited environmental management technique and socially responsible actions mainly involved local donations and sponsorship. These actions might be an important first step but represent a very small commitment to sustainability.”

Bellingen Composting / Worm Farm project

Project two was considered as an alternative. This involved the installation of a large industrial worm composting facility located in the Bellingen CBD to take the organic waste from Bellingen’s cafes and restaurants. Our Living Coast expressed an interest in funding the project subject to conditions.

After considerable effort and investigation the project had to be determined as not a viable funding option due to:

- planning issues made it almost impossible to site the facility in the CBD;
- ongoing running of the facility would require funds and these were not apparent after grant monies were expended;
- Our Living Coast required at least ten businesses to sign up so as to ensure value for money. The proposed facility could only take the waste volume from three businesses;
- The project could not be completed by the time the Our Living Coast program wound up i.e. 31 Dec 2012.

Summary

This short paper examines the results of the Our Living Coast small business projects. The results for project one were considered disappointing to the OLC project team. Factors which contributed to the results include :

- project officer resigning the position prior to completion;
- an inability to provide individualised service and “ hand holding “ due to resources;

- failure to adequately make the case that it is good for business;
- Local floods and the global economic downturn occupied business owners main concerns;
- Lack of promotion by small business association.

An alternative project – the Bellinghen Composting / Worm Farm Initiative ultimately could not proceed due to planning considerations, economic viability, timing and value for money.

A literature review revealed a lot of information is available regarding the difficulties faced when attempting to engage small business in sustainability. Three of these publications were discussed and cited which highlighted that whilst businesses are responsible for 70% of pollution they do not perceive the environment as core business, thus making it difficult to sign up to voluntary environmental programs like Our Living Coast.

Appendix 1. **Bellinghen Businesses – Our Living Coast project**

No.	Business Name	Approached	Expressed initial Interest in energy audit	Signed to plastic bag free	Energy Audit completed	Took Energy actions
	Cafes					
1.	Bello Bean cafe	✓	✓		✓	
2.	Gelato bar	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.	Hearthfire bakery	✓	✓	✓		
4.	Infusion	✓	✓	✓		
5.	Sis de Lane	✓				
6.	Tuckshop	✓	✓	✓		
7.	Lodge 241	✓		✓		
	Hotels					
8.	Bellinghen YHA	✓				
	Retail					
9.	Alchemy	✓	✓	✓		
10.	Bellinghen Beauty	✓		✓		
11.	Bellinghen Butchery	✓				
12.	Bellinghen Cellars	✓	✓			
13.	Bellinghen Hardware	✓				
14.	Bellinghen Laundrette	✓	✓		✓	
15.	Bellinghen newsagency	✓	✓			
16.	Bellinghen Old Church	✓	✓			
17.	Bellinghen Pharmacy	✓				
18.	Bellinghen Providore	✓				
19.	Bellinghen Saddlery	✓				
20.	Bellinghen Valley meats	✓	✓		✓	
21.	Bellinghen Video	✓	✓			
22.	Big Sky Gallery	✓	✓	✓		

23.	Butter Factory Woodcraft	✓				
24.	Cellarbrations	✓		✓		
25.	Chic on hyde	✓				
26.	Creative Etch	✓	✓	✓	✓	
27.	Emporium	✓		✓	✓	✓
28.	Fullers fruit and veg	✓	✓			
29.	Wunderland	✓	✓			
30.	Jeweller	✓	✓			
31.	Heartland Didgeridoos	✓		✓		
32.	Ken Thorn Butcher	✓				
33.	Mouza / Dervish gallery	✓		✓		
34.	Nexus Gallery	✓	✓			✓
35.	Nood moments	✓	✓			
36.	Revival Hair	✓	✓			
37.	R.J.s	✓	✓	✓		
38.	Courtyard Shoppe	✓				
39.	Vivid	✓	✓	✓		
40.	Weave	✓				
41.	Yellow shed	✓				
42.	AWL Leather	✓			✓	✓
43.	Rose Gum Timbers	✓	✓		✓	✓
	Workshops	✓				
44.	Carl Foster Motors	✓				
45.	Auto Electrical	✓				
46.	Belmech	✓	✓			
47.	Bellinghen Automotive	✓	✓			
	Offices	✓				
48.	Bellinghen Gym	✓				
49.	Tursa Employment	✓				
50.	Go4 multimedia	✓	✓			
51.	Kirkland Real Estate	✓	✓			
52.	Bob Hamilton Real Estate	✓				
53.	Bellinghen Healing Centre	✓				
54.	North Bellinghen Surgery	✓				
55.	Bellinghen Post Office	✓	✓			
56.	Bellinghen Neighbourhood Centre	✓				
57.	Waterfall Way Visitor centre	✓	✓		✓	
58.	Nathan Cardow Real Estate	✓	✓			
59.	Guy Saddleton Real Estate	✓	✓			
	Clubs	✓				
60.	Bellinghen Bowling Club	✓				
61.	Bellinghen Golf Club	✓				
	TOTAL	61	31	15	9	5



**Our Living Coast
Final Project Report
to the NSW Environmental Trust**

**Prepared by Jim Downey
31 January 2013**



Our Living Coast
 Final Project Report
 (Grant number 2008/usm/0007)



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Our Living Coast

Final Project Report

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Our Living Coast Community Engagement Project Officers: Elle Morrell, Pia Dollmann

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- All stakeholders and community members who participated in the project.
- Workshop presenters.
- Self Sufficient Homes.
- Sophia Fitzgerald for assistance in laying out this report.

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Our Living Coast
Final Project Report
(Grant number 2008/usm/0007)



1. Background

This final report of the Our Living Coast Regional Sustainability Project is submitted to the NSW Environmental Trust as follows:

- This final report and appendices
- The Project Evaluation Report
- The Project Evaluation Supplementary Report

The Our Living Coast project is a regional sustainability initiative jointly delivered by an alliance of Coffs Harbour City Council, Bellingen Shire Council and Nambucca Shire Council. The project is grant funded by the NSW Environmental Trust under the Urban Sustainability Program.

The conditions of the grant agreement and subsequent letters of amendment from the NSW Environmental Trust for the Our Living Coast Regional Sustainability Initiative require the submission of the Final Project Report by 31 January 2013. This report requires the format as set out in the schedule B guidelines.

An extension to lodge the report by this date - 31 January 2013 - was granted by letter on 3 Dec 2011 by Lisa Corben Secretary of the NSW Environmental Trust following a written request on behalf of the alliance Councils from Jeff Green, Executive Manager Strategy and Sustainability Coffs Harbour City Council.

The final project report as required under the milestone schedule is contained in this report and appendices set out below together with a copy of the final evaluation report for the project completed by external consultant Grahame Collier of T issues consultancy.



Our Living Coast
Final Project Report
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2. Final Project Report Summary

The project business plan was approved by the NSW Environmental Trust on 24 Dec 2009 and project work then commenced in Jan 2010.

The project completed the alliance Council Environmental Sustainability Routemap in early July 2010 following a series of workshops with the 3 Alliance Council staff and external stakeholders. The routemap acts as a guide to choosing and managing shared sustainability projects for Council staff.

The project website continues to provide residents with valuable information on sustainability. See www.ourlivingcoast.com.au The site was officially launched by the 3 alliance Council mayors and the Hon. Amanda Fazio MP on Wed 13 October 2010. The site includes an events section, newsletter subscription, the sustainable living guide and a chat forum.

The community engagement program has delivered a number of workshops for householders on a range of sustainability topics. These included: energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable house day, solar hot water options, waterwise homes and gardens, sustainable shopping and growing food for people and wildlife. A number of community sustainability projects have been undertaken spreading the sustainability message even further amongst residents.

A number of events have been held featuring the Our Living Coast project which have provided extensive promotion of both sustainability generally and the project itself. These have included the North Coast Energy Forum, Bellinger River Festival, the Sustainable Living Festival, Ride to Work Day and the Our Living Coast official project launch.

The Our Living Coast Council Action learning projects involved Council staff in 2 of the alliance Councils and these have improved the Councils' environmental performance. Internal Sustainability Teams have been formed.

Transport projects completed included installation of cycling racks, design and publication of cycling maps for the region, purchase of Council bicycle fleets for Council staff to replace car trips during office hours and the launch of a car pooling website and associated signage for the region.

On ground environmental works carried out through the project comprised a number of innovative projects resulting in revegetation works, riverbank erosion controls, coastal headlands protection, rubbish removal, more sustainable access for residents to scenic sites, stormwater quality improvements and the launch of the Solitary Islands Coastal Walk.

Our Living Coast
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3. Key Findings

The project evaluation report has listed highlights and key findings of the Our Living Coast Project. These are listed below.

Highlights and Findings – Final Evaluation Report

Fabulous program - a wonderfully safe and supportive way to learn and apply practical changes to help our environment. It's made us much more conscious consumers - we consume and use less and choose carefully anything we buy¹. Our Living Coast participant.

We have to have frameworks that nourish life...a sustainable and just lifestyle.² Gilbert Rochecouste

The key results of the Our Living Coast project have been distilled into this summary, organised under headings related to the desired project outcomes.

Behaviour Change

From a slow beginning this Project has prompted significant levels of behaviour change among the communities of the three LGAs and to a lesser extent among Council staff. Highlights are:

- 42.7% of those responding to the Our Living Coast Survey could identify changes they were making as a result of reading the Newsletter alone.
- 83% of people responding to the Our Living Coast survey had made changes as a result of attending the workshops. Most of these were multiple changes.
- In workshops delivered at Festivals, significant intention to change was reported. For example, at the 2012 Sustainable Living Festival in all workshops apart from one, in excess of 75% of participants indicated an intention to change their behaviour as a result of the Workshop. At three Workshops data indicated that more than 90% will change behaviour. The range of changes reported was substantial and far reaching. In the Coastal Ambassadors Program, 69% of those who participated indicated that they intended to change behaviour as a result of the program. Three months after the program over 90% of these people indicated that they had made the changes that they had intended to make.
- All those involved in the Healthy Homes series of workshop indicated that they had made changes as a result of the workshop. Incredible changes were made:

Maureen changed the type of fish she bought, planted more trees, became more aware of turning power off at wall and met new friends.

The Supermarket Tour was fantastic. I learnt a lot and changed what I do at home. I have told all my friends what not to buy. I have even stopped buying some products I love – a brand of tea and a brand of mayonnaise. It was just a great way to learn and it really made me think and do things differently.

¹ All quotes in this report are indicated in *italics*.

² Gilbert Rochecouste – the Placemaker. Rochecouste's company is called The Village Well, and probably best known for revitalising Melbourne's Flinders Lane and Degraeves Street, as well as the Queen Victoria Markets. The common theme is a determination to retain things that make each place distinctive. He was key presenter towards the conclusion of Our Living Coast and at the Celebration Event.

Our Living Coast

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- Actual change indicated from an end of series survey of Healthy Homes participants indicated that within 71 households, and as a result of Healthy Homes:
 - Ten had purchased photovoltaic cells.
 - Thirteen had purchased solar hot water.
 - Nine had purchased water tanks [which were already quite extensively used according to the lifestyle data].
 - Over 60% had planted indigenous plants
 - *Well over 50% had reduced the use of standby power, by turning appliances off at the wall.*
 - Almost 30% had started composting/worm farming.
 - Over 60% were using non-toxic cleaning products, at least some of the time. Vinegar and bi-carb were being used by most respondents.

This is not to say that these were the only changes made – they provide a snapshot of a sample at a point in time. The real news is much better than this; there is so much behaviour change intent and so many changes that have occurred now, where the information has not been captured.

- Council staff have adopted changed behaviour: car pooling, bicycle use, engagement in Sustainability Teams and delivery of a substantial number of sustainability projects.

Project Governance Increased Integration Between Councils

There was significant evidence that the Our Living Coast project has resulted in increased integration between Councils. As one key informant indicated: *There is real evidence that a project 'external to council' has impacted on each Council.*

Feedback from all Council key informants indicated that the governance of the project through the Steering Committee was effective and all Councils contributed effectively in this process.

The Steering Committee worked. Involvement of personnel at Director level was appropriate, because they had the delegated authority to make decisions. Collaboration was effective and this was a great model.

It was noted in particular that there was: *growth in connection, most especially in Councils where there was strong GM support for the project and sustainability.*

It is realistic to acknowledge that the: *Totally different culture within each Council made collaboration challenging.* The differences were overcome by goodwill, effective process and hard work.

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Council Support for Sustainability

There is substantial evidence that: *each Council has moved forward in sustainability, but there has been some 'backsliding' too.*

Unfortunately though, as one key informant noted: *Local Government will always need grants for carrying sustainability forward.* In saying this, there is substantial evidence that: *a project external to Council [in fact three Councils] can have a significant impact on, in-Council and cross- Council activity.*

In Coffs Harbour City Council and Bellingen Shire Council the establishment of the cross-Council Sustainability Teams [the 'S' Team in Coffs and BATS in Bellingen] have lead to substantial gains and extended the focus on sustainability remarkably. The situation in Nambucca is more fluid, with the Council losing its Sustainability Officer and not having developed a Sustainability team.

In terms of Our Living Coast, all Councils have provided substantial officer involvement and support to get the job done in a highly professional and cooperative manner. The work in the On Ground projects is a testimony to this.

On Ground Works

The On Ground Projects represent a significant achievement for Our Living Coast. They were slow to start, through no fault of the Our Living Coast team, but once they did, the works projects were exemplary. Almost all projects were completed as planned. There were significant biodiversity gains and huge increases in volunteering to support environmental works. Some highlights among many were:

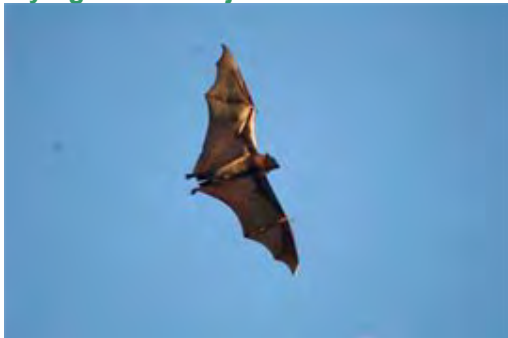
Solitary Island Coastal Walk



This has been a major and significant project between Coffs Harbour City Council and National Parks and Wildlife Service staff. Comments from key informants indicate:

- *This concept has been around for 23 years – a vision to a reality.*
- *Great collaborative project, Coffs City Council, NPWS, Aboriginal community, local residents.*
- *A five-fold multiplier effect to OLC funding input.*

Flying Foxes Projects



Across the three Councils the Flying Foxes projects were highly successful. For example at Bowraville community members said:

- *This has been so good for our community.*
- *The planting, to community ownership and the bats – what a combination.*

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Bellinger Riverbank Erosion Rehabilitation project



Through Our Living Coast, this Bellinger icon has been restored. Erosion works has been undertaken and weed removal and replanting has occurred. Volunteer bush regeneration is a feature of this work and Plan of Management has been developed for the future.

The Nyambaga Walking Trail

The Nyambaga Walking Trail has been upgraded. It encompasses the intrinsic bio-cultural value of the area from the fauna and flora found there. Our Living Coast carried out works to remove inappropriate tracks across the dune system and provide track upgrades in more appropriate locations. Also weed removal, dune plantings, fencing, rubbish removal and a community education program for caravan park residents adjacent to the dunes, were a part of this project.

Community/Householder Engagement

The community was significantly engaged by Our Living Coast. Engagement with its community is a legacy of substance for Our Living Coast:

- Over 67 community workshops were held by Our Living Coast
- Over 1,000 people across the three LGAs participated in these workshops
- Over 90 people participated in the Celebration event
- Twenty one people attended the focus group to collect evaluative data
- One hundred and eighty four people completed the on-line survey
- An extensive range of other contact was forged through the more than 10 festivals and major events that were supported by OLC. This extended the range of contacts to well over 15,000 people.
- Significant numbers of the community have worked as volunteers within Our Living Coast On Ground projects and Community Project Grants
- The community was also engaged through the media, the website, through interpretive signage and through one-on-one conversations with people engaged through Our Living Coast.

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Some key quotes are included below to give a taste of some of the findings.

Workshops [Participants]:

- *Very interesting and informative.*
- *So helpful to me and very sociable- thank you!*
- *Focused, well run, interesting activities, allowed participants to feel comfortable, to contribute and be advised.*
- *I was very satisfied with and what I learnt about chooks.*
- *Really helped with my specific household needs and circumstances.*
- *Just great - you learn so much, speaker fantastic. Thanks!*

Supporting community projects [People involved in community projects]

- *At 2 o'clock when the planting was due to start there were only three of us there. I thought 'oh no.' Then people started flooding out of their houses; in the end there were over 30 people planting and chatting and really enjoying it.*
- *Bowraville – friends of Grassy Park, working bees/bushcare. Fantastic. I can't believe it!*



Sustainability Hubs

The Sustainability Hub is a major success story for the Our Living Coast Project:

- The Newsletter is well subscribed [688 people] and has prompted behaviour change, information sharing and knowledge growth. As indicated by one subscriber: *The Newsletter works for me; prompted to read it by email popping into my box is great.*
- The Website attracted over 500 visits each month on average and is seen as very useful.
- The Facebook Page, with 311 'likes' is well used but by less users than for the website or the Newsletter.
- The Festivals are a strong feature of the Program with strong attendances and significant community support. The Coffs Coast Sustainable Living Festival 2012 was very positively evaluated and prompted behaviour and attitudinal change. It also has a significant impact on social sustainability. It attracted well over 5,000 people. The Workshops at the festival attracted 101 people and drove significant intention to change. At all workshops apart from one, in excess of 75% of participants indicated an intention to change their behaviour as a result of the Workshop. At three Workshops, data indicated that more than 90% will change behaviour.

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Other project activities



The 'ride to work days' were great – three in each Council so far, and has become an institution.

Successful Transport projects were delivered:

- Sixty nine Coffs City Council staff have completed the Bicycle Use induction program; eight bikes have been purchased and are now being used instead of cars for work travel.
- Currently Carpool Mid North Coast has 168 registered members. Carpool signs that are brand recognisable have been installed across the communities of the MNC. Southern Cross University's Coffs Campus has quite a number of signs installed. As well, MNCLHD have had a solid push for the website and similarly have a bulk number of signage installed at their health centres.
- A range of projects and materials are being delivered; Ride to Work Days, walking and cycling maps and brochures etc.

A small business Project in Bellingen has been delivered.

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The Findings of the Evaluation

Finding 1	There is widespread evidence of community behaviour change as a result of the Our Living Coast project.
Finding 2	There is evidence that Councils have worked together and are continuing to do so.
Finding 3	There is evidence that the three Councils worked collaboratively in delivering the Our Living Coast project and that it was guided by the Routemap and the baseline research that was undertaken.
Finding 4	There is agreement on sustainability objectives and a common understanding among alliance Councils. However, Councils have integrated sustainability within their policies and operations to different degrees.
Finding 5	The reach and effectiveness of the Household/Community Engagement program were staggering.
Finding 6	No matter how good a program, there is always room for improvement.
Finding 7	The Small community projects added significant value to the project and kept local groups working together following their attendance at the workshops. This sets a real opportunity for the future.
Finding 8	A range of aspects working together engaged people in the project and brought significant results.
Finding 9	People changed their behaviour because of Our Living Coast Householder /Community Engagement part of the project.
Finding 10	The Coffs Coast Sustainable Living Festival is an important event supported by OLC and leads to changes in behaviour, community connection and more community awareness of sustainability.
Finding 11	The Our Living Coast Website and Facebook Page are important parts of the Hub and deliver information effectively and promote shifts in behaviour.
Finding 12	The OLC Newsletter is an effective and high profile part of the Hub that provides information and prompts behaviour change.
Finding 13	The OLC has also supported a range of other successful events across the three Councils, all designed to raise community understanding of local sustainability issues.
Finding 14	Despite commencing later than anticipated the On Ground Projects funded under the Our Living Coast were largely completed with significant impact.
Finding 15	Bush regeneration and biodiversity improvement were important gains through all On Ground projects.
Finding 16	There was evidence of increases in community awareness of biodiversity [and access to education material] as a result of the OLC project.

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Finding 17	The Coffs, Bellingen and Nambucca communities are very focused on private motor vehicle use as a means of transport. Changing this is a long term challenge, partly related to population density. All Our Living Coast infrastructure and education outcomes have been achieved.
Finding 18	Car pooling has increased across the community and by Council staff at a reasonable level.
Finding 19	Coffs Harbour City Council has implemented a Bike Program for Council Staff and bikes are being used for work related travel.
Finding 20	There is evidence of only limited engagement and impact of the OLC business project and no evidence of resource reduction as a result of the project.

4. The objectives of the project

The objectives of the program were set during 2009 by the project Steering Committee and incorporated into the business plan. These are restated below:

1. To improve biodiversity and sustainability outcomes at both a regional and local level;
2. To increase community capacity toward achieving sustainability improvements and active biodiversity conservation in urban areas;
3. To improve actions and governance mechanisms for sustainability within and across the 3 councils;
4. To build and strengthen local and regional partnerships for biodiversity conservation and sustainability.

5. Project activities undertaken

Listed below are each of the activities which were proposed in the original business plan with a summary of progress made on each.

5.1 Sustainability Routemap

Description in approved business plan:

An alliance between project partners will be developed to create a Regional Sustainability Routemap focussing on key themes including biodiversity, climate change and governance. Key activities will include a series of stakeholder workshops, assessment and collation of results from Councils' recent strategic planning community consultation processes, desktop research into best practice responses, production of a draft route map for public comment, collation of results and a final publication.

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Methodology employed and results:

A report from the consultants assisting the project has been previously supplied to the Trust in milestone report 2 and sets out in detail the process that was followed. This is summarised below:

Methodology

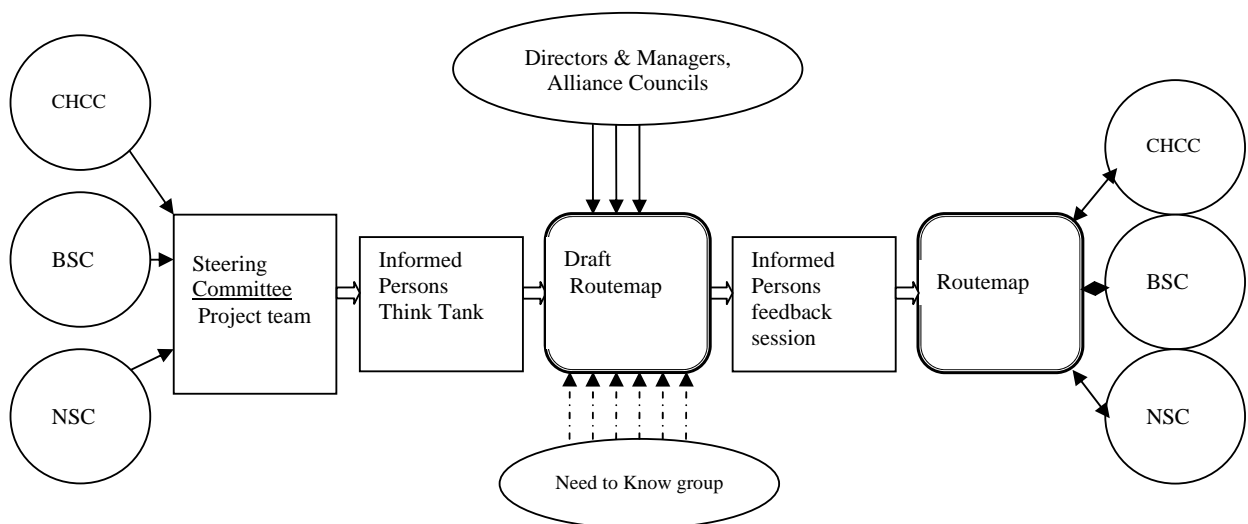
Assessment: A comprehensive assessment of the 3 Councils documents, plans, strategies, policies etc was carried out in order to provide background on priority areas.

Workshop One: Project Initiation

The first workshop was held at the Bellingen Shire Council offices on 28 April 2010 and involved:

- Consultants Jane Elix and Judy Lambert
- Project Team members
 - Jim Downey, *Our Living Coast* Program Supervisor
 - Lynn Delgado, Coffs Harbour City Council
 - Ian Turnbull, Bellingen Shire Council
 - Pia Dollmann, *Our Living Coast* Community Engagement Officer.

A detailed process for the development of the Sustainability Routemap, the scope of the Routemap and broadly the form of presentation of the final product formed the focus of the meeting. Unfortunately the Nambucca Shire Council representative was unable to attend due to another commitment. This was addressed through a meeting with Jacqui Ashby (Environmental Officer, Nambucca Shire Council) the following day in Macksville. The process agreed at this workshop for gaining input to the Routemap is illustrated below:



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Workshop Two: Project agreement and consideration of draft.

This workshop was held at Bellingen Shire Council offices on 10 May and involved:

- Our Living Coast Steering committee members:
Jeff Green Coffs Harbour City Council
Peter Wilson Bellingen Shire Council
Phil Gall Nambucca Shire Council
- Our Living Coast project team:
Jim Downey Our Living Coast Program Supervisor
Lynn Delgado Coffs Harbour City Council
Jacqui Ashby Nambucca Shire Council
Ian Turnbull Bellingen Shire Council
- Routemap consultants – Community Solutions:
Dr Jane Elix
Judy Lambert
- Other participants:
Greg Meyers Nambucca Shire Council
Nic Denshire Bellingen Shire Council

The meeting agreed on the broad parameters and design of the routemap e.g a strategic document rather than a detailed action plan.

Further clarification of the purpose and scope of the routemap was agreed.

Workshop Three: Presentation to Council General Managers

Following workshop two above, the Routemap was presented to Council General Managers at a luncheon meeting 10 May. In attendance were :

Our Living Coast Steering committee, project team and Routemap consultants as above together with :

- Stephen Sawtell, General Manager Coffs Harbour City Council
- Michael Coulter, General Manager Nambucca Shire Council
- Unfortunately Michael Colreavy, General Manager of Bellingen Shire Council was ill on the day and he was represented by Peter Wilson Director Corporate Resources. Mr Colreavy was briefed when he attended workshop number 6 – see below.

The workshop gave two presentations to the General Managers - firstly an overview of the Our Living Coast program and then secondly, more specifically details and the proposed structure of the Routemap.

Workshop Four: First Informed Persons and Agency workshop

This workshop was an all day session on 11 May held at the Uniting Church Hall Bellingen.

In workshop one above, the project team provided suggestions for people who, based on their experience, knowledge and position would be useful contributors to the development of the Routemap. These participants were then invited to workshop four held on 11 May. The invitees were chosen because of their knowledge and experience, rather than as representatives of any particular organisation.

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Participants were:

- Our Living Coast Steering Committee as listed above
- Our Living Coast Project team as listed above
- Community Solutions as listed above

And the following:

- Nigel Cotsell Biodiversity Manager CHCC
- Judy Henderson Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority
- Martin Hogan Bellingen Environment Centre
- Jeff Holmes Parks and Gardens Manager CHCC
- Kirtsy Howton Sustainability officer Southern Cross University
- Terrence Hudson Nyambaga Goori Green teams Alliance
- Tim Ryan Nambucca Valley Landcare
- John Schmidt Nth Rivers CMA
- Craig Stehn Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare
- Joy Vanson Nambucca Valley Landcare
- Rik Whitehead Dept Industry and Investment

Those invited but were unable to attend were :

- Colin Matthews Bellingen Landcare
- Alan Jeffrey National Parks and Wildlife Service
- Kristina Cooke Economic Development Unit CHCC.

This workshop provided further input into the design of the Routemap and considered priority sustainability issues for the region.

Workshop Five: Feedback Sessions

Soon after workshop four above, Community Solutions circulated a draft Routemap to participants of this workshop for feedback. The draft was also circulated to a “ Need to Know ” group for comment. This group comprised approximately 40 individuals across a range of relevant organisations – a complete list is provided in the attached consultants report.

The consultants held feedback sessions with firstly the Our Living Coast Steering Committee and Project Team and then with this group again with the informed persons group.

These workshops were on 16 June at the CWA Hall in Bellingen.

The sessions developed a set of suggestions on how the draft Routemap could be refined.

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**Workshop Six: Directors and Managers Sessions**

An extensive workshop was held at the Urunga Golf Club on 17 June with the steering committee, project team, consultants and selected Alliance Council Directors and Managers in order to obtain their support and feedback.

A total of 27 Alliance Council Directors and Managers attended the session. A full list of attendees is contained in the attached consultants report.

The meeting discussed the Routemap, collaboration on sustainability across Councils and finally, developed “real” possible projects. The four groups projects were:

- 60 Km walking track and cycleway along the coast;
- Local renewable energy production systems;
- Car pooling website;
- Encouraging development of “ Green Buildings ” by setting targets.

Workshop Seven: Finalisation

This workshop was held at the offices of Bellingen Shire Council on 1 July 2010. In attendance were the Our Living Coast Steering Committee and Project Team. Community Solutions were available by conference telephone if needed at any stage.

The meeting considered a second draft of the Routemap. After discussion a set of suggested changes were compiled. These were forwarded to Community Solutions and incorporated into the document. The Routemap document was sent to the printer in Coffs Harbour for printing on 6 July and has been received and distributed to Councils.

Brief assessment of success or otherwise:

Both the production of the routemap and the process for doing so have been successful in achieving the following positive outcomes:

- Raising sustainability awareness amongst senior Council staff including General Managers, Directors and Senior Managers;
- Raising the profile of the Our Living Coast project with key external stakeholders;
- Production of a reference document for Council staff working on collaborative sustainability projects across the region and
- Highlighted within the 3 Councils the very real need to consider the establishment of sustainability teams both in each individual Council and secondly, an inter Council team across the region. Sustainability teams have been established in two of the Councils and are currently very active. Discussion is taking place about the possibility of establishing an inter Council team across the region, however, this requires more work.
- The checklists contained in the Routemap have been formally applied to a major grant 3 Council Our Living Coast Alliance application titled *Our Living Coast Renters Energy Savings Project*. The project has formed the basis of an application for a grant under the Federal Government’s Low Income Energy Efficiency Project. (LIEEP). The application was tested against the Routemap key checklist questions, namely :
 - Which priority will this collaborative project address?*
 - How can local government best respond to the priority issue?*
 - How can this proposal be most efficient in using resources?*
 - How will this project be managed?*
 - How will the project’s success be measured?*

This exercise gave the applicants considerable comfort that the grant application had covered off the major issues associated with delivering a joint sustainability project.

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Monitoring and Evaluation Plan :

The agreed project outcomes and evaluation questions for the Routemap are set out below.

Routemap	Outcomes	Evaluation questions
Ultimate	A shared vision among the three Alliance Councils on how to achieve sustainability in the region and a Sustainability Routemap that provides the direction.	Is there evidence of a shared vision, owned by alliance Councils?
Intermediate	Agreement among the Alliance Councils on sustainability objectives for the region. The three Alliance Councils have a common understanding about sustainability issues across the region.	To what extent is there agreement on sustainability objectives and a common understanding among the alliance Councils?
Immediate	Baseline information on sustainability is gathered on previous work undertaken individually by all three Alliance Councils.	Has baseline research been undertaken and results shared?

5.2 Council Action Learning Project

Description in approved business plan :

A cross Council action learning process will seek to embed sustainability practices within the Councils' operations. A series of six workshops with Council staff from a range of disciplines over two months will be the main activity to be undertaken.

Outline of methodology employed :

During April and May 2010, Our Living Coast project team members met with staff of the Urban Sustainability Support Alliance (USSA) of the Local Govt Shires Association with a view to finalising the details of project implementation. It was agreed to initially target outdoor/ maintenance / operational staff and to conduct a series of projects with them.

In essence, in each of the three OLC Councils, the OLC project team and the USSA worked with outdoor staff to help them identify potential sustainability projects that could be implemented as part of their work. This was preceded with a workshop for their managers on sustainability and looked at examples of what Councils around the country are doing.

Both the briefings for Council managers and the initial workshops with Council staff as listed above were completed. Our Living Coast project team members met in early October 2010 with outdoor staff managers in each of the Councils and briefed them on the project. The proposed project was enthusiastically received by all managers.

Staff from the USSA (Sue Martin and Niki Carey) facilitated workshops at the end of October 2010 with outdoor / operational staff from each of the 3 alliance Councils.

In addition, in response to the Our Living Coast Routemap project USSA staff also facilitated the inaugural meeting of the Bellingen Shire Council Sustainability team.

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Brief assessment of success or otherwise:

Following these workshops Coffs Harbour City Council and Bellingen Shire Council formed Sustainability S Teams. It was decided in both cases to recruit both indoor and outdoor staff. These two teams oversaw internal sustainability projects as part of the Our Living Coast project as set out in the tables below :

Coffs Harbour City Council Projects
Our Living Coast Council in House projects

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Form an S Team	Completed	Applications for team members were called, with 24 staff joining the S-Team. First team meeting was held 13 May 2011 and monthly thereafter. The main focus for the last 18 months has been implementation of the below projects and promotion of the '10 Steps for Change within Council' which we promote widely.
Commence Log Dump timber recycling	Completed	Two timber milling runs have occurred, with S-Team now selling milled timber to other sections of Council. A portion of income received will go back to S-Team to be used to implement further sustainable measures within Council. Timber is also being donated to local high schools for woodworking projects.
Complete energy audits of Admin Building, Rigby House and Marcia St Depot	Completed	Matthew Parnell of Green Synergy was engaged to undertake audits of three Council buildings. The reports provide recommendations for reducing energy consumption.
Install tyre inflators	Mostly Completed	Three tyre inflators were installed for use with Council's own fleet vehicles and staff private vehicles. Educational material is currently being developed for staff in their correct use and importance in maintaining appropriate tyre pressure.
Develop promotional materials for S team	Completed	S-Team have developed T-shirts, S-Team logo stickers, 10 Steps for Change Stickers and other promotional material including reusable coffee cups, water bottles and drink coolers. We also developed a short film about sustainability focussed on our '10 Steps for Change' which is on Council's intranet site and will be used for staff inductions. S-Team was launched for Administration staff 10 Feb and a launch for outdoor staff will be held 6 December 2012.
Install bike racks	Completed	Bike racks have been installed outside the library , art gallery precinct and are very popular with the community.
Install power saving software on all PCs	Mostly complete	Software has been purchased and installed. All IT staff have been trained in its use and software is currently going live in a staged process.
Install energy efficiency measures with any excess budget	Partially completed	Seven-day timers have been purchased for use on Council's water coolers and mini boils. Energy efficient lights have also been purchased for Council's Marcia St depot. We are awaiting delivery so they can be installed.

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Bellingen Shire Council
Our Living Coast Council in house projects

Actions	Fully/Partially/not at all	Brief description of what was done
Environmental Management System (EMS)	Fully	Council’s Works Department has developed an Integrated Management Systems that incorporates WH&S, quality and environmental management (EMS) components. This system can be applied to all projects across the entire organisation to mitigate the environmental impacts of various projects. The system is currently it is being trialled at Council’s \$2million upgrade of Rocky Creek and is also being certified by an external auditor.
Landscaping to avoid fuel and pesticide use	Fully	Several landscaping projects were completed throughout the urban townships of the Shire. These projects targeting areas that required brush cutting rather than mowing. Areas were sprayed; weed mat put down and planted out. This stopped the requirement for brush cutting, therefore reducing fuel use/greenhouse gas emissions and people hours/work pressure.
Establish BATS	Fully	The Bellingen Action Team for Sustainability (BATS) was established in October 2011. BATS consists of staff members from all sections of Council and has become a cohesive team delivering a range of projects in its first year.
Community garden	Fully	A community food garden was established in a garden bed in front off the Bellingen Council Chambers. This was promoted to the local community and is used frequently by Council staff and community members. The garden is maintained by BATS.
Shopping bags for staff	Fully	Boomerang Bags – cloth reusable shopping bags have been installed at each main doorway and the kitchen in the Council admin building. These bags are frequently used by Council staff.
Water filters	Fully	Water units and plastic water bottles have been removed from the Council admin building and have been replaced by a filter tap in the main sink of the kitchen. This will reduce Council’s plastic use, greenhouse gas emissions and cost of buying bottled water by \$3000/year.
Film	Fully	A film promoting BATS and its activities was produced by Council Staff. This will be shown to all Council staff at an event in late 2012.
Switch to recycled toilet paper	Fully	All toilet paper supplies to the Council admin building; depots and other Council managed building, such as public toilets now only stock 100% recycled and Australian owned toilet paper.

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Nambucca Shire Council
Report on Our Living Coast in house projects

Following the workshops discussed above that were held with Nambucca Shire outdoor staff in Oct 2010, considerable internal discussion took place as to funding priorities for potential projects. A combination of difficulties resulted in these discussions being postponed until further workshops could be held with internal staff and Councillors. The reasons for the postponement were :

- Major flood events meant outdoor staff and other resources were diverted to remediation works;
- Suggested projects put forward were not supported by the NSW Environmental Trust largely on the basis they were felt to be core business of Council anyway;
- Site specific problems with newly discovered contaminated land precluded proposed community and staff garden plantings;
- Outdoor staff felt they would like to involve indoor staff.

To this end, the USSA again assisted the facilitation of workshops for indoor staff and Councillors in July 2011. Four workshops were held over the 3 days and involved 52 staff and / or Councillors. Again, these workshops developed potential projects to be funded under Our Living Coast. The development of a Council wide Environmental Management System ISO 14000 emerged as the preferred project. Due to concerns by Councillors about ongoing funds required for auditing and annual updates this was not approved by Councillors.

It also became apparent that recent refurbishments such as \$120,000 recently spent on energy efficiency upgrades outside the Our Living Coast project meant that opportunities for more gains within the allowable budget were limited.

Ultimately, it was decided by Nambucca Shire Council to request a budget reallocation away from in house projects to more household and community engagement. This budget reallocation was submitted to the Trust in May 2012 and agreed in June 2012.

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Monitoring and Evaluation Plan :

The monitoring and evaluation plan developed for the Council Action Learning project is set out below :

Action Learning Projects	Outcome	Evaluation questions
Ultimate	An agreed process into the future that sees the three Councils work together on ongoing operations. Reduction in Council energy, fuel and water use as a result of specific <i>Our Living Coast</i> initiatives.	Have the Alliance Councils identified a process for future collaboration concerning operations and other sustainable processes? Is there evidence of reduction in resource use as a result of specific projects undertaken under <i>Our Living Coast</i> ?
Intermediate	Positive changes in internal Council relationships and processes which assist in moving towards more sustainable operations.	What evidence is there of changes to internal processes and relationships as a result of <i>Our Living Coast</i> ?
Immediate	Improved knowledge and understanding of best practice operations and technologies available to Councils for their own operations.	Is there evidence of improved knowledge among Council Operations staff as a result of <i>Our Living Coast</i> ?

5.3 Sustainability website or “Hub”

Description in approved business plan :

An online integrated data and information management system (the ‘Our Living Coast’ Sustainability Hub) will be developed. The Hub will benchmark regional sustainability progress and become a “one stop shop” for regional State of the Environment reporting. Councils, government agencies and the community will use the Hub to share information and knowledge. The main activities will be a World wide assessment of possible models, design of the website and a public launch of the site by an eminent and popular local identity.

Outline of methodology employed and assessment of results:

The Our Living Coast website or “Hub” is live and can be viewed at www.ourlivingcoast.com.au

The website was developed with the assistance of Go4 Multimedia - a Bellingen based website design company. Go4 were selected after a call for expressions of interest process. In total five (5) proposals from consultants were assessed.

The website currently contains:

- Home page (including newsletter subscription service)
- About (project description)
- Environmental Reporting Section
- What you can do
- Links
- Sustainable Living Guide
- Events

The site was officially launched by the 3 Alliance Council mayors and the Hon. Amanda Fazio on Wed 13th October 2010.

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During 2011 and 2012 a number of additional initiatives were implemented and linked to the Our Living Coast website. The Sustainability Hub came to include:

- The Our Living Coast website
- The OLC Facebook page
- The OLC Newsletter
- The OLC Sustainable Living Festival and
- Other OLC events that promoted the program such as the Bellinger River Festival.

Assessment of success or otherwise:

Appendix one to this report sets out in detail the responses from program participants to an end of program online survey. A brief summary of results is outlined below for each of the Hub elements together with a Google Analytics data analysis of the website.

5.3.1 Website

Appendix two to this report shows charts of number of people who visited the website, no of pages visited and percentage of returning visitors.

Introduction

The charts were compiled using Google Analytics software to analyse the data related to the Our Living Coast website. The period analysed is Aug 2010 to Nov 2012, a period of 28 months.

1. Number of people who visited

The top five peak numbers for people visiting in any one month were :

Rank	Month	Number	Possible influencing factors
1.	Oct 2012	941	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
2.	Oct 2011	878	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
3.	Nov 2011	852	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
4.	Nov 2012	795	Sustainable Living Festival and healthy Homes
5.	Feb 2012	688	Healthy Homes facebook prize

The monthly average over the 28 months was 461 people.

The following factors may have influenced the peaks and troughs:

- Jan 2011 an increase of 65 % on the previous month could be due to a gradual build up of media articles and paid advertising taken out in Nov / Dec 2010 for Living Smart. Jan 2011 also coincided with our four part Discovery Ranger tours put on in conjunction with NPWS.
- June and July 2011 a decrease of 37 % from the previous months could be due to the gap between resignation of our household project officer in June and Elle commencing in August. No Living Smart / Healthy Homes workshops were conducted in these two months.
- August 2011 an increase of 63 % on the previous month could be due to Elle commencing and immediately advertising information sessions for Healthy Homes.
- Peaks in Oct / Nov 2011 are most likely to be due to the Coffs Harbour Sustainable Living Festival and the Healthy Homes workshops fully underway.

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- The high in Feb 2012 is almost certainly due to the Healthy Homes facebook competition.
- The slight drops in June / July 2012 could be due to no Healthy Homes workshops being held in these months.

2. Number of page visits

The top three peak numbers for page visits in any one month were :

Rank	Month	Number	Possible influencing factors
1.	Oct 2012	3691	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
2.	Oct 2011	3597	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
3.	Nov 2011	3117	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
4.	Nov 2012	2691	Sustainable Living Festival and Healthy Homes
5.	Feb 2012	2290	Healthy Homes facebook prize

- The monthly average over the 28 months is 1690.
- The top three above were closely followed by August 2011 with 2252. This could be due to commencement of the advertising for Healthy Homes.
- There was also a jump in Sept 2010 which could be related to the project launch late in that month.
- It appears the peaks and lows for this category closely follows the number of people stats above in section one.

3. Returning visitors as a % of the total visitors

The set up months for the website essentially continued up until Dec 2010 and as a result the number of returning visitors was very high until this month and reflects work being done by our content and website administrators.

Since then our returning visitors has consistently stayed in the band 26 to 35 % with about 30 % being the average.

The highs in June / July 2011 could be repeat visits by people looking for the Healthy Homes workshop information which wasn't loaded until August 2011.

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4. Most visited pages.

An analysis of our most popular pages reveals the following :

Page title	Number of months ranked no. 1	Number of months ranked no. 2	Number of months in top 10
Home page	23	1	24
Category / Events		17	23
Sustainable Living Guide			22
State of the Environment Reporting			16
SLG – avoid eating endangered fish		1	13
Household program			12
About OLC			12
What you can do			12
SLF	1	2	7
Post an event			6
News win a solar prize		2	3
News ask your local fishmonger		1	1

As stated above the website users survey results are contained in the project Final evaluation report which is attached. Brief results for the website include :

- 74 % of project participants said they used the website;
- 84 % of these said the website was either “ useful ” or “ very useful”.

5.3.2 OLC Newsletter

At the project completion date of 31 Dec 2012 the final number of subscribers to the OLC newsletter was 688. The newsletters can be found on the OLC website.

The end of program survey showed that 53 % of participants were very satisfied with the newsletter and 45 % were satisfied meaning 98 % either found the content useful or very useful. When asked if the newsletter helped in making lifestyle choices 92 % responded as either helpful or very helpful. When asked if they had made any lifestyle choices because of the newsletter 43 % responded yes.

5.3.3 OLC Facebook page

At the project completion date the number of “ Likes ” for the OLC page was 311.

The survey of program participants revealed that only 24 % of program participants used the Facebook page which would indicate that a fair proportion of the Facebook “ Likes “ came from people who did not use the website. This is to be expected given that more elderly people have not taken to social media as a younger generation has.

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5.3.4 Sustainable Living Festival



The OLC program supported the Sustainability Living Festival held in Coffs Harbour in 2010 and 2012. The purpose in 2010 was more about promoting the Our Living Coast project through the festival naming rights. On the other hand, in 2012 the support was more centred on bringing about community connection, behaviour change and awareness of sustainability. For this reason, the results from the 2012 Festival were heavily evaluated by the OLC team.

The 2012 festival contained the following elements :

- Saturday 3rd November - "Local Food Film Festival" @ Bunker Cartoon Gallery
- Sunday 4th November - "Botanica Spring Fair Day" @ North Coast Regional Botanic Garden - Hosted by Gardening Australia Host - Costa Georgiadis
- Wednesday 7th November- TAFE Expo Day @ Coffs Harbour Education Campus
- Thursday 8th November - "Show us Ya Dish" @ Growers Markets, City Centre Mall.
- Saturday 10th November - Sustainable Living Workshops @ North Coast Regional Botanic Garden and other satellite locations.

On the day OLC staff collected 194 evaluation forms and of these 155 people said they were very satisfied with the event and 37 people said they were satisfied. Refer to project final evaluation report for further detail.

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Other events – Bellinger River Festival



As indicated above, the OLC program also supported some selected other events, the main one being the Bellinger River Festival. These were chosen on the dual basis of providing good promotional opportunities for the OLC program and secondly, bringing about community connection, awareness raising and behaviour change towards sustainability.

OLC supported the festival in 2011 and the due to this seed funding the festival was able to attract external funding for 2012 and “ stand alone ” with its own raised funds. The intention is to do this on an annual basis into the future.

Appendix three to this report contains excerpts from the evaluation report completed for the festival including the results of a participant survey at that reports appendix 8. The full report is available upon request but due to file size has not been fully included here.

Updated monitoring and evaluation plan :

The outcomes and evaluation questions developed for the website are as follows:

Sustainability Hub	Outcomes	Evaluation questions
Ultimate	Users of the Hub start to change their practices; for example change of light globes, alternate shopping bags etc.	What evidence is there of community behavior change as a result of the Project?
Intermediate	Community awareness of priority sustainability issues and actions is increased. Increasing use of the Hub is evidenced by measuring and providing information about hits and visitors.	What evidence exists of increased community awareness? What data exists about use of the Hub?
Immediate	A Sustainability Hub is completed and live on-line; providing information to the community on how to achieve sustainability. Baseline assessment of information occurs that identifies what could be provided to the community on sustainability.	Is the Hub available and working live on-line? Has information been sourced and placed on the hub?

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5.4 Community Engagement Projects

5.4.1 Household Engagement Project

Description in approved business plan :

A series of business and community education programs will target sustainable actions. The *Sustainability Street*™ approach for the household program will be assessed as to suitability and if not the formal sustainability street model a modified version that better suits local needs can be developed. Regardless of the delivery method, household workshops will cover the main sustainability themes of water, energy, food production, transport, gardening, your local area natural and cultural highlights.

Background

In order to assist with the development and design of a household community engagement program, the project conducted a community needs analysis. Jetty Research were engaged in early April to conduct random surveys of residents. The final dated 7th May 2010 was titled : *Random telephone survey re sustainability awareness and educational interest for Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and Nambucca LGAs.*

A full copy of this report was forwarded to the Environmental Trust with the milestone one report dated 31 May 2010.

This report informed the development of the household program taking into account highest areas of interest and preferred delivery method. A number of potential programs and tools were assessed for adoption and delivery by OLC. The final delivery methods were adopted and delivered :

- A series of occasional workshops on a range of sustainability topics delivered by local experts
The Living Smart Program July 2010 to May 2011;
- Workshops series – The Living Smart Program July 2011 – August 2011
- Information Sessions – Healthy Homes;
- Workshop series - Healthy Homes Oct 2011 to June 2012;
- Community Sustainability Projects;
- Focus Group;
- Celebration event;
- On line survey;
- Making the Sustainable Living Guide available to all householders through the Our Living Coast website;
- Events noticeboard on the OLC website;
- A number of events and festivals supported by OLC.

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The table below summarises the workshops/events delivered and the attendance results :

Event	Date	Location	No. of workshops	No. of attendances
Living Smart one off sustainable living workshops	Jul 2010 to May 2011	Across the 3 LGAs	16	321
Living Smart Natural Interpretation Tours	Jan 2011	Bongil Bongil Nat Park and Bellingen Island	2	31
Healthy Homes Natural Interpretation Tours	Jul 2011 to Feb 2012	Nambucca Estuary Bongil Bongil Coffs Harbour	4	66
Living Smart Eungai Creek	Aug 2011	Eungai Creek	4	48
Living Smart Scotts Head	Aug 2011	Scotts Head	4	52
Living Smart Taylors Arm	Aug 2011	Taylors Arm	4	32
Healthy Homes Info. Sessions	Sept 2011	Macksville Coffs Harbour	2	13
Healthy Homes Workshop Series	Oct 2011 to Apr 2012	Bowraville Mylestom Urunga Sawtell Nambucca Heads Macksville Valla Beach Nambucca Heads – Caravan Park	34	478
Sustainable Living Festival 2012 Sustainability Workshops	Nov 2012	Coffs Harbour	8	101
Celebration Event	Nov 2012	Bellingen	1	90
Focus Group	Nov 2012	Valla Beach	1	21
TOTAL			80	1285
Our Living Coast Sustainable Living Festival 2010 - Botanica				Approx. 5000
Our Living Coast Sustainable Living Festival 2012 - Botanica				Approx. 5000
Bellinger River Festival 2011				Approx. 2000
Whale Day				Approx. 500

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The workshop topics delivered were :

Living Smart and Healthy Homes

- Energy Efficiency
- Green Cleaning and Detox your home
- What does your garden grow ? – Weed identification
- Installing big ticket items – Solar, solar hot water and rainwater tanks
- Raising Chooks
- No Dig gardening and Composting
- Indigenous interpretation of Country
- Ethical Shopping
- Reducing food waste
- Tree Planting
- Renewable Energy
- Water Efficiency

Sustainable Living Festival Workshops

- Understanding your soil
- Coffs Jaliigirr Project
- Citrus in the home garden
- Sustainable health
- Permaculture
- Culturing your inner ecosystem
- Energy Efficiency
- Weeds in your garden
- What communities can do to create great places
- Coffs Community Garden tour
- Friends of Coffs Creek Landcare site tour

5.4.2 Community Sustainability Projects

A number of community sustainability projects were completed under the Healthy Homes project. Community projects were available to communities who attended a Healthy Homes four workshop series.

Appendix eleven to this report lists the projects completed together with relevant photos.

Behaviour Change

The attached program evaluation final and supplementary reports contain a great amount of detail on behaviour changes that have occurred as a result of the project. The excerpt below summarises the highlights:

Highlights are:

- 42.7% of those responding to the Our Living Coast Survey could identify changes they were making as a result of reading the Newsletter alone.
- 83% of people responding to the Our Living Coast survey had made changes as a result of attending the workshops. Most of these were multiple changes.



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- In workshops delivered at Festivals, significant intention to change was reported. For example, at the 2012 Sustainable Living Festival in all workshops apart from one, in excess of 75% of participants indicated an intention to change their behaviour as a result of the Workshop. At three Workshops data indicated that more than 90% will change behaviour. The range of changes reported was substantial and far reaching. In the Coastal Ambassadors Program, 69% of those who participated indicated that they intended to change behaviour as a result of the program. Three months after the program over 90% of these people indicated that they had made the changes that they had intended to make.
- All those involved in the Healthy Homes series of workshop indicated that they had made changes as a result of the workshop. Incredible changes were made:

Maureen changed the type of fish she bought, planted more trees, became more aware of turning power off at wall and met new friends.

The Supermarket Tour was fantastic. I learnt a lot and changed what I do at home. I have told all my friends what not to buy. I have even stopped buying some products I love – a brand of tea and a brand of mayonnaise. It was just a great way to learn and it really made me think and do things differently.

- Actual change indicated from an end of series survey of Healthy Homes participants indicated that within 71 households, and as a result of Healthy Homes:
 - Ten had purchased photovoltaic cells.
 - Thirteen had purchased solar hot water.
 - Nine had purchased water tanks [which were already quite extensively used according to the lifestyle data].
 - Over 60% had planted indigenous plants
 - *Well over 50% had reduced the use of standby power, by turning appliances off at the wall.*
 - Almost 30% had started composting/worm farming.
 - Over 60% were using non-toxic cleaning products, at least some of the time. Vinegar and bi-carb were being used by most respondents.

This is not to say that these were the only changes made – they provide a snapshot of a sample at a point in time. The real news is much better than this; there is so much behaviour change intent and so many changes that have occurred now, where the information has not been captured.

- Council staff have adopted changed behaviour: car pooling, bicycle use, engagement in Sustainability Teams and delivery of a substantial number of sustainability projects.

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Monitoring and evaluation plan :

The outcomes and evaluation questions are set out below for the household engagement program.

Household Engagement Program		
Ultimate	All householders engaged in the Living Smart Program change practices to more sustainable use of water and energy, and improved waste management, purchasing and gardening behaviour.	LS1. To what extent are householders engaged in the program demonstrating improved practices
Intermediate	Raised understanding of sustainability in households engaged in the Energymark Program. Raised awareness of participants in all general Council workshops about sustainable living	LS2. What evidence is there of increases in awareness and understanding among energy mark participants? LS3. What evidence is there of increases in awareness and understanding is there among general workshop participants?
Immediate	Community workshops held on cycling on topics which include: bike maintenance, safe riding techniques, road rules, selecting a bike, greenhouse friendly travel modes etc Identification of community needs and wants regarding access to information about sustainability.	LS4. Have community workshops been held - where and to what extent? LS5. Is there evidence of community needs assessment?

5.4.3 Our Living Coast Business Engagement Program

“ Serious problems are raised for educators when seeking to design and deliver environmental education for small business as they are a disparate group that seek individualised and specific attention.” See Redmond and Walker below.

Background

At its inception, the OLC project budget originally contained an amount of \$74,000 for the rollout of a small business sustainability project in each of the three Council areas. Following internal discussions and external consultations, both Coffs Harbour City Council and Nambucca Shire Council decided not to proceed with a small business project. This was based on past difficulties experienced in this area together with a lack of resources to carry out such a project.

Accordingly the project was confined to businesses within Bellingen Shire Council and the budget amended to \$24,600 for this purpose.

Bellingen Project

Project one centred on two aspects of sustainability : plastic bags use and energy efficiency. Business were approached as follows :

1. The Our Living Coast project officer approached a small business asking whether they would sign up to the Bellingen Plastic Bag Free campaign being run by The Bellingen EYE : Environmental Youth Experience. In return for signing up they received a Bellingen EYE shopfront window plaque for display.

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2. At the time of the plastic bag free approach the same businesses were asked if they wished to participate in the Our Living Coast Small Business Energy Efficiency project. This project offered businesses a subsidised energy audit (the audit cost the business \$75 only) after registration with the NSW Government's Small Business Energy Efficiency Program. An energy efficiency assessor visited the business and the business was provided with a report and a set of recommendations.

Our Living Coast would provide up to \$300 for installation of energy efficiency measures, such as lighting, draught proofing etc.

The NSW State Government would provide up to \$5,000 on a 50 / 50 matched funding basis where the pay back period is less than 2 years. The amount provided was dependent on the size of the electricity bills being incurred.

Project results

In total 61 small business within the Shire of Bellingen were approached asking whether they would like to be involved (see appendix four). Of these :

- 31 businesses expressed initial interest;
- 15 businesses were signed up to support the plastic bag free Bellingen campaign;
- 9 businesses had an energy audit conducted;
- 2 businesses successfully applied for funding from Our Living Coast for amounts up to \$300 for energy efficiency measures;
- 3 businesses successfully applied to the State Government SBEEP project for amounts up to \$5,000.

Related to these project results the project officer resigned mid project and significant floods affected many of the businesses in the period we were conducting the business project.

Project Conclusions

These results were considered by the Our Living Coast (OLC) project team to be disappointing.

In response, it was agreed between the program evaluator Grahame Collier of t issues consultancy and the OLC project supervisor Jim Downey that the OLC project team would conduct a small literature research project which attempts to compare the Our Living Coast project outcomes and experience to conclusions from other studies that have looked at engaging small business in sustainability.

Small Business and Sustainability – Research results

A literature search reveals there is a lot of information regarding engagement of small business in sustainability programs. A sample of these is discussed below.

Dee, J. (2010) Sustainable Growth. Small Business Big Opportunity

This publication reports on the Net Balance / AFS SME Sustainability Index which was compiled from interviews with 800 decision makers from firms who employ 5 to 199 people. This article establishes some of the barriers in raising sustainability on the SME agenda.

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When asked which challenges they considered a major concern for their businesses, compliance and economic issues scored highest:

- maintaining revenues – 74 %
- finding the right talent for your industry – 70 %
- meeting government regulations – 55 %.

Over 60 % did not consider energy efficiency a major concern when it came to saving money. Only one third had a major concern about managing their waste. (This would be interesting to do a comparative study in Australia now that the carbon tax is in.)

This research also showed that while 72 % of SMEs indicated they thought their business was environmentally friendly, an analysis of actions they were actually taking revealed that only 15 % were undertaking relevant activities that would support their claim.

Redmond.J and Walker E. (2009)Environmental Education in Small Business : The Owner-Manager's Perspective. Australian Journal of Environmental Education, vol. 25, 2009.

This paper cites various references which looked at the difficulties of engaging small business in sustainability. There is evidence that business discounts the environment as their core business;

“.....many small businesses consider the environment to be a peripheral rather than a core business issue and that they do not perceive that they have a significant impact on the environment...”

This paper goes on to claim that “small businesses are continuing to fly under the radar when it comes to them being actively engaged in the debate regarding the need for them to change any poor environmental behaviour in their businesses.” Whilst considerable effort has been made to determine the best way to engage small businesses in environmental management

“a recent study has shown that small business owner-managers support education as the best strategy to reduce negative environmental impacts within the sector. Paradoxically, it is also known that small business owner-managers are usually wary of formal education and training, are less likely to train staff than large businesses and view training of any sort as a cost and not an investment. ”

What this article goes on to suggest is that the Our Living Coast project approach to engaging businesses in Bellingen was a sound aspiration yet there is evidence of reasons for their lack of engagement..“ Small business’ engagement in environmental management practices is vital as it is currently estimated that small businesses are contributing up to 70% of global pollution. Yet many small businesses have not engaged or only do so to the extent of compliance. ”

Another pointer is that some of the difficulties experienced by the project officer are symptomatic of this area of activity. “ Serious problems are raised for educators when seeking to design and deliver environmental education for small business as they are a disparate group that seek individualised and specific attention.”

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Lucas, Trevor; Cunningham, Robert; and Lamberton, Geoff (2009) *Small Business Engagement with Sustainability in Regional Australia*, Journal of Economic and Social Policy : Vol.13:Iss 1, Article 3.

This study draws on a random sample of 195 small business owners and managers in ten communities within the Far North Coast region of New South Wales.

“ Similar to UK studies this research found only minimal evidence of small business social and environmental responsibility and there was no correlation with business success. The conclusion in the UK studies was that self-interest alone is insufficient, necessitating Government intervention compelling business to engage in socially and environmentally responsible actions.”

“ Whilst there were a significant proportion of small businesses reporting socially and environmentally responsible actions in the study, these are very much at the low end of sustainability performance. Recycling was the only commonly cited environmental management technique and socially responsible actions mainly involved local donations and sponsorship. These actions might be an important first step but represent a very small commitment to sustainability.”

Bellingen Composting / Worm Farm project

Project two was considered as an alternative. This involved the installation of a large industrial worm composting facility located in the Bellingen CBD to take the organic waste from Bellingen's cafes and restaurants. Our Living Coast expressed an interest in funding the project subject to conditions.

After considerable effort and investigation the project had to be determined as not a viable funding option due to:

- planning issues made it almost impossible to site the facility in the CBD;
- ongoing running of the facility would require funds and these were not apparent after grant monies were expended;
- Our Living Coast required at least ten businesses to sign up so as to ensure value for money. The proposed facility could only take the waste volume from three businesses;
- The project could not be completed by the time the Our Living Coast program wound up i.e. 31 Dec 2012.

Summary

This report examines the results of the Our Living Coast small business projects. The results for project one were considered disappointing to the OLC project team. Factors which contributed to the results include :

- project officer resigning the position prior to completion;
- an inability to provide individualised service and “ hand holding “ due to resources;
- failure to adequately make the case that it is good for business;
- Local floods and the global economic downturn occupied business owners main concerns;
- Lack of promotion by small business association.

An alternative project – the Bellingen Composting / Worm Farm Initiative ultimately could not proceed due to planning considerations, economic viability, timing and value for money.

A literature review revealed a lot of information is available regarding the difficulties faced when attempting to engage small business in sustainability. Three of these publications were discussed

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and cited which highlighted that whilst businesses are responsible for 70% of pollution they do not perceive the environment as core business, thus making it difficult to sign up to voluntary environmental programs like Our Living Coast. .

A list of Bellinghen businesses and their participation results is contained at appendix four to this report.

Monitoring and evaluation plan :

The outcomes and evaluation questions for the business engagement program are set out below:

Business Engagement Program		
Ultimate	Businesses in Bellinghen engaged in the program make tangible changes in resource use as a result of the program.	B1. What resource reduction evidence exists among Bellinghen businesses engaged in the program?
Intermediate	Businesses in Bellinghen sign-up and become engaged in the program.	B2. How many businesses are signed up and engaged in the program?
Immediate	Signing up to the project is seen as giving businesses a competitive advantage on a town wide basis.	B3. What evidence exists about the positive features of involvement in the program?

5.5 Transport Program

Description in approved business plan :

The approved business plan for the transport component of the Our Living Coast project contains the outcomes listed below in two sections : cycling and public transport.

1. Cycling

- Commencement of installation of more cycle ways across the region as part of the on ground works section of “ Our Living Coast “
- Installation of more bike racks across the region
- Community workshops held on cycling on topics which include : Bike maintenance, safe riding techniques, road rules, selecting a bike for you, greenhouse friendly travel modes compared to others,
- Completion of cycling route maps for the 3 alliance Councils areas
- Councils purchase bikes and make them available to employees for work related trips

2. Public transport

- Community surveys to gauge community support for more bus services
- A report which demonstrates unmet demand for better public transport in the region
- Consideration of the report by bus companies.
- Since the submission of the business plan the Steering Committee reviewed the transport component of the Our Living Coast project and at its meeting on 1 July 2010 decided to adopt the following projects :

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Transport Projects agreed by Steering Committee on 1 July 2010 :

- **Car Pooling Website**
Develop Mid North Coast car pooling website. Link with existing Northern Rivers website and their designers. See www.nrcarpool.org
- **Regional Cycling / Walking Maps**
Scope to be determined but will be concentrated on urban areas.
- **Cycling Racks**
To be installed in key high profile locations.
- **Regional Commuter Rail Feasibility Study**
The mid North Coast currently has no commuter rail service. This study would ascertain the feasibility of establishing a service utilising the existing infrastructure in place for the Country link service from Brisbane to Sydney.

The feasibility study will include community surveys to gauge support for a commuter rail service from Macksville to Coffs Harbour.

- **Council Bicycles**
For use by staff instead of motor vehicle trips.
Coffs and Bellingen only.

The approval process for the proposed changes since this date can be summarised as follows :

- approval was sought by email on 20 July 2010 from the Environmental Trust for the proposed changes listed above to the transport component of the Our Living Coast project;
- this advice confirmed all the proposed projects listed above apart from the light rail feasibility study which was disallowed. The steering committee then decided to fund **Ride to Work Days** in each Council area instead of the Light Rail Feasibility Study.

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Assessment of success or otherwise :



5.5.1 Car pooling website

See www.carpoolmnc.org

The OLC program worked with staff from a range of Councils (see below) to bring about the Mid North Coast carpooling website. Funding was provided by OLC together with a grant from Transport NSW. The website covers a region from the Coffs Harbour City Council IGA to the Great Lakes LGA. Initially the website was to be confined to the 3 OLC Alliance Councils, but additional funding from Transport NSW together with considerable interest from other Councils and organisations meant the project was expanded. The organisations involved are:

- Transport NSW
- Coffs Harbour City Council
- Bellingen Shire Council
- Nambucca Shire Council
- Kempsey Shire Council
- Port Macquarie / Hastings Shire Council
- Gloucester Shire Council
- Greater Taree City Council
- Great Lakes Shire Council
- Mid North Coast Local health District
- Southern Cross University
- North Coast Institute of TAFE.

The Mid North Coast carpooling website used the same website designers as the pre-existing Northern Rivers Carpool project set up in 2009. We share the same back end database but they own the copyright.

The Mid North Coast project has been launched and promoted at a range of events across the partner organisations including joint meetings / promotional events by Council Mayors and General Managers.

Currently Carpool MNC has 168 registered members. Collectively with the Northern Rivers site, we have 1,198 registered members. The Northern Rivers site has been operating for 3 years and it is expected that with regular ongoing promotion the MNC site will achieve similar numbers.

In total 101 carpooling signs have been installed across the Mid North Coast region.

Appendix five to this report provides more detail on the Mid North Coast carpooling website. A copy of the promotional brochure is included at appendix 6.

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5.5.2 Regional walking / cycling maps

G'day Jim,

It has been brought to my attention that you were largely responsible for getting the book of Popular Cycle Routes together.

I just wanted to offer my thanks for a job well done. The book has been very well received by our customers, both residents and tourists.

Nice one!

Regards,

Al

VENTOUX CYCLES

6 Dec 2011

After considerable research and needs analysis conducted by staff of the 3 Alliance Councils and OLC project staff, it was decided to produce a high quality booklet on suggested cycling routes across the 3 Alliance Council Local Government Areas.

The 32 page booklet was jointly funded by the OLC program and "Get Healthy NSW". In total there are 22 suggested cycling routes covering approx. 430 kms with maps, safe riding tips, safety checklist, list of bike shops, mountain bike riding tips, cycling clubs and reasons to cycle. Appendix 6 contains a copy of the booklet.

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The rides listed, described and mapped in the booklet are set out below:

Ride Name	Region	Local Govt Area	Ride distance
Woopi Wanderer	Woolgoolga	CHCC	17 kms
Bruxner- Bucca T	Orara	CHCC	28 kms
Eastbank Road	Orara	CHCC	30 kms
Big Block	Orara	CHCC	60 kms
Upper Orara Loop	Orara	CHCC	16 kms
Coffs Creek Cycleway	Coffs Harbour	CHCC	8 kms
Harbourside	Coffs Harbour	CHCC	8 kms
Eastside Circuit	Coffs Harbour	CHCC	9 kms
Hogbin Drive Cycleway	Coffs Harbour	CHCC	6 kms
The Sawtell Connection	Coffs Harbour	CHCC	6 kms
Pacific Highway Cycleway Link	Coffs Harbour	CHCC	9 kms
Lyons Road link	Coffs Harbour	CHCC	5 kms
Pine Creek Way	Coffs Harbour	CHCC	10 kms
Mylestom River Road	Bellingen	BSC	13 kms
Yellow Rock Ride	Bellingen	BSC	18 kms
Bello Loop	Bellingen	BSC	45 kms
Promised Land Loop	Bellingen	BSC	34 kms
Riverside Amble	Nambucca	NSC	6 kms
Wirrimbi Ride	Nambucca	NSC	16 kms
Gumma Ride	Nambucca	NSC	14 kms
Congarinni Ride	Nambucca	NSC	22 kms
Nambucca valley Tour	Nambucca	NSC	52 kms

The booklets have been very well received as evidenced by the large print runs that have been necessary after running out of stock :

- First print run 20,000
- Second print run 5,000
- Third print run 15,000

The booklets have been distributed to Australian Cycling Magazine, Council offices, Libraries, Cycling shops and Visitor Information Centres. Anecdotal feedback from staff etc at these distribution points suggests that the booklets are very popular.

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In addition, OLC project staff have been approached by two other Councils in Northern NSW enquiring about the project with a view to assessing its applicability to their region.

The Solitary Islands Coastal walk project completed under the Our Living Coast Program also produced a map and description of the walk in a Z Card format.

A copy of the Z Card booklet is included in appendix six to this report.

5.5.3 Bicycle racks

A total of 14 bicycle racks have been installed across the region as follows :

Local Govt. Area	Location	Number
CHCC	Art Gallery / Library	2
BSC	Main Street	2
	North Bellingen	1
	Library	1
NSC	Council offices	4
	Macksville Library	2
	Nambucca Heads Library	2

Each Council has received requests for more bike racks to be installed due to the popularity of the new racks and suggestions they are often fully utilised. (J. Ashby NSC, N. Denshire BSC, A. Shearer CHCC *pers.comm*)

5.5.4 Council Bicycle Fleet

Coffs Harbour City Council implemented a bike program for Council staff and bikes are now being used for work related travel. Eight bicycles were purchased following an extensive research process, which looked at similar program run by Ballina Shire Council, Brisbane City Council and Gold Coast Council.

Prior to participation, Council staff were required to complete an induction. Sixty nine (69) staff completed the induction. As at 30 November 2012, the bicycle odometers reveal that 2980 kms have been travelled on the bike fleet.

A survey of staff who completed the induction was carried out in Oct 2012. The full results are available upon request. A brief summary of some results were :

- 78 % of bicycle use was for Council business use (the bikes are available for recreational use as well);
- 44 % of staff trips were 5 – 10 kms;
- 45 % of staff said that their bicycle trips replace 50 % of their trips for work related travel;
- When asked what are the benefits of using the Council bicycle fleet ? the following results were obtained :

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Answer Options	Response Percent
I feel better physically	75.0%
It lowers my stress levels	50.0%
I am fitter	50.0%
I enjoy the fresh air and being outdoors	95.0%
Makes me more productive	50.0%
It is a more convenient form of transport than the car (eg easy to park; no traffic jams; manoeuvrable etc)	75.0%
Makes me happy	75.0%
Improves staff morale	30.0%
Community see Council using sustainable transport	60.0%
Less carbon emissions	75.0%
Healthier travel option	80.0%
Other (please specify)	

5.5.5 Ride to Work Days and On Ya Bike

OLC provided resources to each of the Councils for Ride to Work Day and On Ya Bike events in 2010, 2011 and 2012. OLC funded participant Ride to Work Day T Shirts and some assistance with food and drinks at each of the breakfasts. The number of participants were as follows :

Council	Year	No. of Participants
CHCC	2009	60
	2010	100
	2011	230
	2012	150
BSC	2009	Not held
	2010	10
	2011	22
	2012	48
NSC	2009	Not held
	2010	30
	2011	14
	2012	16
Total		680

Note : The number of participants at Nambucca Shire Council Ride to Work Day events in 2011 and 2012 were down due to inclement weather and thunderstorms.

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Monitoring and evaluation plan :

The outcomes and evaluation questions for the transport projects are set out below :

Transport	Outcomes	Evaluation questions
Ultimate	Increased use of more environmentally friendly modes of transport. Evidence of increased use of cycling as a mode of transport.	Is there evidence of increased use of environmental friendly transport options – including cycling?
Intermediate	Increased awareness across the region of cycling as a mode of transport. Increased use of car pooling among Council staff and in the community.	Are people across the three Alliance Councils more aware of cycling as a mode of transport? Is there evidence of increased car pooling by Council staff and/or in the community
Immediate	Councils purchases bikes for use by employees for work related trips – Cycling Racks also made available [Nambucca, Coffs and Bellingen]. Cycling and walking route maps available at each Alliance Council.	Is there evidence of purchase of bikes for Council staff, construction of bicycle racks and availability of maps in each alliance Council?

5.6 On Ground Works

Description in approved business plan:



On- ground works will be carried out which engage the community, indigenous groups and students in increasing access and amenity to our living corridors. Works will include bush regeneration around urban endangered ecological communities and threatened species to create corridors, linked to paths, cycleways and cultural and environmental interpretive signage. These works will be undertaken by the community and other partners in order to build capacity and skills.

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Outline of methodology:

Extensive in house and external stakeholder discussion and consideration of potential on ground works projects took place early on in the project. This culminated in a number of options being examined and these were initially set out in the milestone 2 report lodged with the Trust on 31 July 2010.

This contained an allocation for a regional flying fox project – see description below.

The project team and the steering committee in mid 2010 also developed a major on ground works project titled the *Our Living Coast Great Ocean Walk: Walking With the Whales* from Scotts Head to Coffs Harbour through the 3 alliance Council LGAs.

Closer investigation, due diligence and stakeholder consultation brought the committee to the realisation that while an exciting and visionary project, its scale and scope was beyond the resources and timeframe of Our Living Coast. The committee took a cautious but realistic approach.

Further options were forwarded to the Trust with Milestone report number three and progress report dated December 2010. A Trust staff member met with OLC Project staff and Council officers in March 2011. Some concerns were expressed regarding the proposed projects and work continued on refining the projects. Final approval for all projects were obtained from the Trust on 4 Nov 2011. The agreed final projects are summarised in the table below and detailed project descriptions as agreed have previously been lodged with the Trust.

Council LGA	On Ground Works Description of projects	Amount \$	
Coffs Harbour City Council	* Regional Flying fox project	\$ 50,000	
	* Solitary Islands Coastal walk		
	- Diggers Head track upgrade	\$ 117,600	
	- Mullaway headland track upgrade	\$ 44,500	
	- Darkum head track upgrade	\$ 12,900	
	- Littoral rainforest/ Themeda headland / Melaleuca Forest Education Interps	\$ 30,000	
	- Route markers	\$ 7,000	
	- Signage	\$ 35,000	
	- Z card maps and info.	\$ 8,000	
		\$ 254,900	\$ 304,900
Bellinger Shire Council	* Bellinger Island Flying Fox Camp Restoration and management	\$ 44,000	
	* Bellinger Riverbank erosion rehabilitation	\$ 72,000	
	* Mylestom Coastal Biodiversity Enhancement	\$ 31,000	
	* Our Living River Estuary Action Plan works	\$ 108,000	
	* River Festival	\$ 10,000	
	* Regenes Project	\$ 40,000	
		\$ 304,900	
Nambucca Shire Council	* Regional Flying Fox project	\$ 40,000	
	* Wellington Rock and Dune project	\$ 160,000	
	* Urban Creeks Restoration	\$ 100,000	
		\$ 300,000	
Region wide	Standard Flying Fox Interp. signage		\$ 20,000
TOTAL			\$ 929,800

Assessment of success or otherwise:

Each of the tables below lists the proposed actions that were set out in each of the detailed project descriptions and provides commentary on the level of success achieved in completing these actions.

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**Our Living Coast
 Bellingen Shire Projects**

1. Flying Fox Projects

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Produce a Bellingen Island Management Plan	Fully	The DRAFT Plan of Management (PoM) Bellingen Island Integrated Reserve was completed and put on public exhibition for comment in August 2012. A public hearing for the Categorisation of Land under the NSW Local Government Act was held 22 nd November. The final PoM will be put to Council for adoption and implementation in December 2012.
Carry out bush regeneration in the Bellingen Island remnant through control of vine, mid-story and groundcover weeds	Fully	Bush regeneration throughout Bellingen Island has significantly reduced the threat of weeds including madeira vine; balloon vine; and trad. Providing protection of the EEC remnant and restoration of native seedling to provide further habitat for on site flying foxes.
Carry out planting of highly disturbed areas on Bellingen Island	Fully	1400 local native plants were successfully established on the disturbed river bank and western area of Bellingen Island.
Carry out regular and continuous follow up weeds control works	Fully	Monthly follow up weed control works have been carried out on Bellingen Island and the surrounding area for consolidation of the main project works. Relationships with local Landcare groups working on the sites have been established and strengthened. These groups will continue with on-going follow-up weed control and restorative works.

2. Bellinger Riverbank erosion rehabilitation

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Implement 200 m of best practice alluvial bank stabilisation	Partially	160m best practice alluvial bank stabilisation including rock/log deflector jams & pin groynes. Works were slightly over budget & therefore fell short of the 200m distance originally intended.
Plant a 200 m vegetated riparian zone	Fully	200m riparian zone planted adjacent to bank stabilisation structure. Approx. ¼ of the plants were buried with sand in the January 2012 floods however the remaining plants continue to be maintained by Bellingen Urban Landcare.
Hold a field based event	Fully	2 guided canoe tours featuring river processes and projects in the upper estuary from Bellingen Island to Fernmount including this riverbank stabilisation site. 45 local landholders attended the first tour & 40 attended the second. This site also featured in a tour at the 2012 Bellingen River Festival & is a regular site for Bellingen Urban Landcare.

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3. Mylestom Coastal Biodiversity Enhancement

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Carry out primary weed control over 10 Ha	Partially	Primary weed control was completed across eight (8) hectares. The reduced area covered is due to finding unexpected dense infestations of Madeira Vine on the dunal system. This required extensive work hours for removal/control. Primary weed control reduced impact of Bitou Bush; Lantana; Glory Lily; Madeira Vine; Senna and Coral Trees.
Carry out secondary and other follow up works over 36 Ha	Fully	Secondary weed control works across the project site and adjacent area for consolidation of the project significantly reduced the impact of Bitou Bush; Lantana; Glory Lily; Madeira Vine; Senna and Coral Trees on the dunal system.
Engage householders adjacent to the dunes in a behaviour change program	Fully	Mylestom residents attended the Healthy Homes workshop series. Including workshop on Garden Escapees and Weed identification. Participants displayed learnt knowledge of plant species and suitable locations for specific plants.
Conduct community planting event	Fully	Local native plants and weeds identification session and tree planting day for Mylestom residents held Wednesday 21 st November 2012



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4. Our Living River – Estuary Action Project

Actions	Fully/Partially /not at all	Brief description of what was done
Implement seven Site Action Plans with landholders	Fully	Site Action Plans were implemented on 7 properties (3 Council & 4 private).
Rehabilitate and restore 3.2 km stretch of Bellinger River riverbank (76 Ha)	Partially	Weed control, revegetation, and rock revetment undertaken along 2km of Bellinger River bank (30ha). A large amount of the 76ha originally intended were part of the Golf Course project which was transferred to another funding opportunity through Landcare. The original distance and area estimates were taken directly from the Site Action Plans which include the whole property rather than the riparian zone portion of the property.
Instigate maintenance agreements for works	Partially	Maintenance agreements are in place for 5 of the 7 sites. The 2 remaining sites are Council sites and will be a priority for any future funding opportunities.
Community and golf club participation in the project	Partially	The Golf Club project was transferred to another funding opportunity through Landcare. Northbank Community Gardens planted 1 of the project sites and continues to maintain it through volunteer working bees.
Engage up to 500 community members in a Bellinger River Festival	Fully	Approx. 2000 people attended the Bellinger River Festival 2011. Approx. 500 people participated in workshops, activities & guided tours. 105 local businesses/organisations & 311 individual people were involved in the running of the event.
Planting of 500 riparian plants	Fully	400 trees and Lomandra were planted by 14 community members in the lead up to the festival. 25 people planted 250 trees & 200 Lomandra during the festival. Most of these plants washed away in the January 2012 floods however 280 replacement trees were planted in May 2012.
Increase community appreciation of the Bellinger River	Fully	The community’s response to the River Festival 2011 was overwhelmingly positive. In response to this, the festival was repeated in 2012 and the community continue to praise the event as an enjoyable and effective way to focus on the river and appreciate its beauty, values and management.
Other - Church Street and Jarrett Park river embankment beautification project	Fully	The old riverbank between Church Street and Jarrett Park in Bellinger was upgraded via the planting of 510 native Australian plants in October/November 2012. The project site was 900m2 and aimed to revegetate the embankment to improve the aesthetic properties of the embankment, to improve the biodiversity of the Shire and to help improve bank stability with plantings.

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5. Regenesis – started but could not be completed (see attached report at Appendix seven on why this project could not proceed)

The key objectives of the Regenesis project were to establish a carbon forest on Council land as a demonstration to local landowners and provide home-grown offsets for Council carbon emissions.

Due to the federal government recently approved Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) methodology and criteria for a sequestering carbon via tree plantings (*Carbon Farming Quantifying Carbon Sequestration by Permanent Environmental Plantings of Native Species using the CFI Modelling Tool*) Methodology Determination 2012), Council did not have own a suitable parcel of land suitable to deliver the project under this methodology.

This decision was made on the 4th October 2012. See appendix seven to this report. As an alternative, it was then proposed that a further component of the “Bellinghen Island Rehabilitation“ project be implemented but due to approvals and licences required from the Crown and unforeseen difficulties with the site, this was not achievable by the OLC project completion date. (N. B. Dumped asbestos was discovered on the site once plantings commenced and works had to cease).

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Our Living Coast
Nambucca Shire On Ground Works Projects

1. Flying Fox Projects

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Restore the EEC components	Partially (10 year project to complete full EEC)	Vast weeding was done to eradicate main weed species and immature camphor laurels. Due to conditions of S95 Licence only a small percentage of canopy could be removed at one time and had to be replaced over time. The draft FF PoM sets out a staged approach to revegetation of the EEC. This PoM was finalised in March 2012 and has yet to be endorsed by Council. The bushcare group will work through the PoM into the future
Increase the area's value as a wildlife corridor	Fully	The vegetation has not been removed only enhanced and therefore the area remains a wildlife corridor
Protect and enhance the Bowraville riparian values	Partially	Still much work to be done to enhance riparian values – but this is a long term aim and can not be done in the project time frame of 3 years
Protect and enhance the Macksville remnant lowland rainforest values	Partially	The EEC has not been mapped as yet, although biodiversity ground truthing study will be conducted within the next few years to log this area as EEC.
Provide for the community's needs in terms of recreation, education and interpretation	Fully	Grassy park has once again been turned back into a place for community recreation, education and interpretation.
Identify the management issues	Fully	The FF PoM has identified the management issues within the parks area and sets out recommendations
Incorporate Council's legal, community and cultural protection responsibilities.	Partially	The PoM had not been adopted by Council as yet. Although this area has now been highlighted as an area that needs protection.

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2. Wellington Rock (V Wall area)

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Remove eroded and inappropriate goat tracks	Fully	A new fenced pathway was installed away from the foredune area and the old pathways have been replanted and cut off to deter shortcutting.
Install ramp connecting wall to walking track	Fully	The ramp was turned into stairs due to the incline. Duraplas planking and chain will be laid after xmas to help stabilise the trail and make it easier for people to walk on.
Weed eradication program	Fully	The Dunecare group have been operating in the area for many years. The EEC that was identified has now been cleared of all weed species and the dunecare group will manage this into the future
Remove rubbish and old fencing	Fully	Most of the old fencing was reused within the new track, the old wire and 7 old poles were taken offsite.
Rehabilitation of dune systems	Fully	The old pathway across the dune system has been removed, pioneer species have started to grow across the dune system and will make the area more stable.
Strengthen Banksia and Casuarina plantings	Fully	Adjunct plantings have occurred throughout the area and not just on the old pathways
Install new fencing	Fully	New fencing with dog proof wire has been installed along the new track and recycled fencing along the bush tucker track
Install interpretive signage	Fully	18 interpretative signs have been installed along the trail at various areas to describe the bio-culture of the area – from plants and animals to habitats (both terrestrial and marine) to cultural heritage (both aboriginal and European)
Education program for caravan park residents	Fully	A 5 workshop series was presented at the Caravan park for residents. The incidence of dumping in the park boundaries has been drastically reduced. Worm farms and compost bins for communal use have been installed. A dog doo bag dispenser has been installed for caravan park users. The caravan park has now received its gold gumnut award.
Public Field day and/or community workshops	Fully	A dunecare come and try day was held earlier in the year and several people have signed up and been working steadily in the park. The grand opening weekend showcased the trail, from guided tours by Gumbaynggirr custodians showing the areas richness as a food resource to people just coming and looking at what is on offer. 800 people visited the trail in 3 days.
Other (please detail)		Photographs of project start to finish attached

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3. Urban Creeks Restoration

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Works at Beer Creek	Fully	A Gross Pollutant Trap was installed at Beer creek and enhancement plantings of native species carried out, removal of exotic plants and some revetments works done to protect mangrove forest.
Freshwater Creek	Fully	A Gross Pollutant Trap was installed at Freshwater creek and enhancement plantings of native species carried out, removal of exotic plants.
Bellwood Park	Fully	Revetment works to protect the creek and parklands from wave erosion. Enhancement plantings of lomandra and trees to provide shade for park users
Unnamed drain near V Wall	Fully	Clearing of the area of weed species and removing debris to enable some flow (creek was backed up), gabion apron installed to reduce the water erosion during storm events. Enhancement plantings of native species and protection of mangroves.
Education program for residents	Fully	A fun day was held to help residents of each of the catchments understand where pollutants go when it rains 100 people attended. Pamphlets were dropped in each letterbox of every house in each sub-catchment. An annual clean up the river day has been inaugurated and so far has been a success
Education for small business	partially	Business uptake has been slow – businesses that have shown interest have now changed their ways of disposing of oils – businesses drains were stencilled to remind them that this drains to the Nambucca River
Drain stencilling	Fully	Over 1000 drains (that lead to the Nambucca River) have been stencilled by community members, schools and Council staff
Interpretive signage	Fully	An interpretative sign has been ordered and will be erected in Bellwood park

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Our Living Coast
Coffs Harbour City Council Projects

1. Flying Fox Projects

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Create an additional vegetation layer to maintain and enhance a cool, humid and sheltered environment for the camp.	Completed	Planting of canopy, midstorey and understorey species has occurred post weed removal. The objective of the plantings is to recreate the onsite plant communities strata, which is currently absent due to weed incursion. The plantings will increase humidity and reduce hot dry winds into the Flying-fox Camp. Planting is considered complete, however the structure will take 5-10yrs to develop.
Revegetate areas to promote biodiversity across the site and reduce the threat of weed incursion	Completed	Extensive weed removal has occurred with >90% reduction in weed biomass within the interior of the camp. Planting of 2200 native plants has occurred as part of this project. The restoration of Three Endangered Ecological Communities has been a priority as well as habitat/food resource increase for 5 threatened fauna species.
Create a buffer edge with indigenous species to provide for visual enhancement and an effective non-roosting screen.	Completed	A buffer edge has been created on the parkland interface to increase the visual amenity of the flying-fox Camp. Species selected are not suitable as roost trees and have a low dense habit. The area has been mulched and clearly defines the Flying-fox Camp boundary to the recreational space, reducing mowing incursion. The plantings will also restricted human access into the camp, creating a protected area for the flying-foxes.
Revegetation of Riparian Areas to Promote Bank Stability around the lake	Completed	Weed removal and seed collection has occurred and the nursery is growing on the specific 150 plants needed to promote bank stability and restore the riparian vegetation community. The planting and maintenance has been costed in the projects follow up budget.
Address camp structure and to promote natural regeneration.	Completed	Reduction in weed biomass has increased natural regeneration over the entire restoration area. Natural regeneration is being monitored closely by bush regeneration staff and sensitive species protected from wallaby browsing with cages. A 60% increase in understorey species regeneration been noted across the project area post removal of lantana and vine weeds. Closure of the canopy in two of the plant communities will enhance long-term natural regeneration over a five year period.
Follow up Weed Control Works	Completed	Two programs of weed control have been delivered as part of this project. With a 90% weed biomass reduction in the project area of 5000msq. Coffs Harbour City Council via its Environmental Levy Program have committed funds for ongoing weed control and follow up works.
Regional Flying Fox Management Plan	Incomplete	Quotation contract was drafted, however consultants were not able to deliver the Strategy and community consultation under the project timelines. The Regional Plan was unable to be delivered due to time constraints.
Installation of regional interpretive and	Partially Completed	Signs are designed but waiting for final artwork to be supplied by Office of Environment & Heritage. Final approval is required by

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educational signage		the three councils and printing will depend on funding.
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2. Coffs Harbour Coastal Headlands Environmental Protection, Education and Ecotourism Project

Actions	Fully / Partially/not at all	Brief Description of what was done
Development of a Nature based tourism strategy	Fully	OLC engaged The Stafford Group to complete the consultations and strategy. This was completed in Nov 2012 and will be promoted throughout 2013. See Appendix eight for a copy of this report.
Develop Educational materials: - Your Guide to enjoying Coffs Harbour - SICW brochure - Cultural and interpretive signage - Way signage	Fully	The Guide (5,000 printed) and walk brochure (20,000 printed) are attached at appendix six. Over 250 signs have been installed including way signage, natural and cultural interpretive signs and maps signage.
Bonville Headland : - Designate and construct 140 metres of paved walkway - Implement control programs for exotic grasses - Rehabilitate 70 metres of unsustainable walking routes - Promote environmental and cultural values	Fully	These targets have been met in full. Interpretive signage has been installed at Bonville Headland. See photographic evidence.
Diggers Head : - Construct 30 meters of raised boardwalk and a staircase - Implement control program for weeds and perennial grasses - Promote environmental and cultural values		These targets have been met in full. Interpretive signage has also been installed at Diggers headland and adjacent Charlesworth Bay. See photographic evidence.
Woolgoolga headland : - Implement control program for exotic perennial grasses - Promote environmental and cultural values - Construct 1000 metres of paved walking tracks	Fully	These targets have been met in full. Interpretive signage has also been installed at Woolgoolga Headland. See photographic evidence and press reports.
Mullaway Headland :		
* Construct 380 metres of paved walking track * Implement control program for exotic perennial grasses		These targets have been met in full and more. The final walking track at Mullaway headland was 450 metres. Interpretive signage has also been installed at Woolgoolga Headland. See photographic evidence.
Bush regeneration : Expansion areas 61 Ha Follow up areas 27 Ha Maintenance areas 83 Ha		While these activities were not funded by the OLC program(they were funded by NSW Nat. Parks and Wildlife Service) ther were described in the original project description. Approximate results were : Expansion areas : 55 Ha Follow up areas : 30 Ha Maintenance areas : 76 Ha
Other		The OLC program provided \$ 254,000 to this project which enabled a further

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		\$1.4 million to be contributed. See Appendix 8 to this report.
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Monitoring and Evaluation

The outcomes and evaluation questions for on ground works is set out below :

On Ground Works	Outcomes	Evaluation questions
Ultimate	Completion of erosion control, revegetation and weed removal works in coastal areas. Increased urban biodiversity through activities under the Flying Fox project.	OGW1. Has all planned erosion control, revegetation and weed removal works been completed? OGW 2. Is there evidence of increased biodiversity as a result of the project?
Intermediate	Increased community awareness of the region's coastal biodiversity values through improved access. Increased community awareness of biodiversity through improved access via the Coastal Walk.	OGW 3. What evidence exists of increased community awareness of the region's coastal biodiversity values?
Immediate	Improved community access to information about coastal biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage values.	OGW4. What evidence exists of improved community access to information about coastal biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage values?



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6. Partner / stakeholder communication

Partner communication

The three partner alliance Councils in the project have participated in a number of ways through meetings, briefings, presentations, workshops etc. The main ones are listed below (please note this list is not exhaustive and for practical reasons smaller meetings to do with operational matters have not been included. The list also does not include household engagement workshops/events as these are the subject of a separate report):

Date	Description	Participants
8 July 2009	Project team meeting #1	Project team
12 Aug 2009	Project team meeting #2	Project team
2 Sept 2009	Steering committee meeting #1	Steering committee and project team
15 Dec 2009	Project team meeting #3	Project team
1 Feb 2010	Project team meeting #4	Project team
9 Feb 2010	Steering committee meeting #2	Steering committee and project team
24 Feb 2010	Steering committee meeting #3	Steering committee and project team
March /April 2010	Council meeting resolutions reaffirming Our Living Coast project	Council elected representatives – Coffs Harbour City Council, Bellingen Shire and Nambucca Shire
15 April 2010	Project team meeting #5	Project team
28 April	Routemap workshop	Project team and consultants
10 May 2010	Routemap workshop and presentation to Council General Managers	Steering committee, project team, Routemap consultants and Council General Managers
17 June 2010	Routemap workshop	Steering committee, project team and Council senior managers and directors.
30 June 2010	Project team meeting #6	Project team
1 July 2010	Steering committee meeting #4	Steering committee and project team
19 Aug 2010	Project team meeting #7	Project team
21 Sept 2010	Steering committee meeting #5	Steering committee and project team
1 Oct 2010	Council Action Learning Briefing	Coffs Harbour City Council operational managers
6 Oct 2010	Council Action learning Briefing	Nambucca Shire Council operational managers
13 Oct 2010	Project launch	A range of attendees including Council staff and Councillors
14 Oct 2010	Council Action learning Briefing	Bellingen Shire Council operational managers
27 Oct 2010	Council Action learning workshop	Coffs Harbour City Council operational staff
	Council Action learning workshop	Nambucca Shire Council operational staff
28 Oct 2010	Council Action learning workshop	Bellingen Shire Council operational staff
	Inaugural Bellingen Sustainability team meeting	Bellingen Shire Council sustainability team members. OLC staff.
1 Dec 2010	Project team meeting #8	Project team
10 Feb 2011	Project team meeting # 9	Project team
10 March 2011	Steering Group meeting # 6	Steering Group

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Date	Description	Participants
23 March 2011	Project team meeting # 10	
5 May 2011	Project team meeting # 11	
19 May 2011	Inaugural Coffs Harbour City Council S team meeting	Coffs Sustainability Team. Olc staff.
22 July 2011	Steering Group meeting # 7	Steering Group
16 Aug 2011	Launch of Council bicycle fleet	Mayor, OLC project staff and Council staff
2 Sept 2011	Steering Group meeting # 8	Steering Group
8 Sept 2011	Project team meeting # 12	Project team
29 Oct 2011	Bellinger River Festival	OLC project staff and Council staff
3 Nov 2011	Sustainable Living Festival commences over 4 days	OLC project staff and Council staff
1 Dec 2011	Project team meeting # 13	Project team
9 Dec 2011	Cycling Booklet launched	OLC and Council staff.
16 Dec 2011	Launch of works at Woollgoolga Headland as part of the Solitary Islands Coastal Walk	OLC staff, NPWS staff, Council staff.
5 April 2012	Steering Group meeting # 9	Steering Group
26 May 2012	Launch of Mid North Coast Car pooling website	Mayors of the various Councils
12 June 2012	Project team meeting # 14	Project team
15 August 2012	Project team meeting # 15	Project team
4 Nov 2012	Sustainable Living Festival commences for a week	OLC project staff and Council staff
9 Nov 2012	Launch of Solitary Islands Coastal walk	Mayor, OLC staff, Council staff, NPWS
9 – 11 Nov 2012	Launch of completion of Nambucca Shire on ground works projects	Nambucca staff, Nambucca Councillors, OLC project staff.

N.B. The Steering committee and project team comprises staff from each of the 3 alliance Councils.

Newsletters

A total of twenty two (22) editions of the Our Living Coast newsletter have been distributed. This is sent by email on a monthly basis and as at project completion on 31 Dec 2012 we have 688 subscribers.

Media

A number of press releases have been distributed as part of the project with resultant media coverage. Attached to this report at appendix nine are sample copies of press clippings. A number of the OLC events have also attracted radio and TV coverage.

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7. Stakeholder Engagement / Participation

Participation by Council stakeholders has been outlined in the section above. The table below refers to stakeholders other than Council staff and officers.

Stakeholder name	Description of participation
Green Tech Solutions	Workshop presenter Attendance at official launch
Nambucca Heads Local Aboriginal Land Council	Attendance at official launch
NSW Dept of Premier and Cabinet	Attendance at launch
NSW State Forests	Attendance at launch
North Coast TAFE	Attendance at launch Partner in Carpooling website
Go4 Multimedia	Attendance at launch Website design
Green Synergy	Attendance at launch Project advice – Council Action learning project Completion of Energy Audits – Council Action Learning Project
NSW Land and Property Management Authority	Attendance at launch
Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority	Attendance at launch Participation in Routemap workshops
Dept of Planning	Attendance at launch
Bellingen Environmental Youth Experience	Attendance at launch Partner in “ Plastic Bag free “ project
Bellingen Chamber of Commerce	Provided advice on small business project Distributed promotional materials for OLC A member of Bellingen River Festival organising committee
EcoBello	Attendance at launch Developing household project OLC attend meetings and report on project
Nambucca Valley Landcare	Participation in Routemap workshops
National Marine Science Centre	Assisted with hosting a workshop with tourism industry re Solitary Islands Coastal Walk
Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare	Project design consultations Attendance at launch Participation in Rotemap workshops
Bellingen Landcare	Project design consultations Revegetation of Bellingen Island
Bellingen Environment Centre	Participation in Routemap workshops Co-organiser – Energy Forum
Bellingen Urban Landcare	Revegetation of western end of Bellingen Island
Southern Cross University	Participation in Routemap workshops Advice on design of car pooling website
Nyambaga Goori Green Teams Alliance	Participation in Routemap workshops Attendance at launch

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Stakeholder name	Description of participation
Dept of Industry and Investment	Participation in Routemap workshops
National Parks and Wildlife Service NSW	Partner –Solitary Islands Coastal walk - Discovery Tours Jan 2011 & 2012
Coffs Coast Regional Park Trust	Partner – Solitary Islands Coastal Walk
Macksville Community Services Council	Co-organiser - Gardening workshop
Northbank Community Garden	Co-organiser – Gardening workshops
Coffs Regional Organic Producers Organisation	Promote OLC events
Coffs Harbour Community Garden Association	Consulted on gardening workshops
Solar Inverters	Co-organiser – community workshops
Dorrigo Green Lifestyle Group	Promote OLC events
Transition Bellingen	Partner in Bellingen River Festival
Get Healthy NSW	Partner in cycling booklet
Coffs Harbour Bicycle Users Group	Gave advice on cycling booklet
Dorrigo Urunga Bellingen Bicycle Users Group	Gave advice on cycling booklet
Nambucca Bicycle Users Group	Gave advice on cycling booklet
Transport NSW Bellingen Shire Council Nambucca Shire Council Kempsey Shire Council Port Macquarie / Hastings Shire Council Gloucester Shire Council Greater Taree City Council Great Lakes Shire Council Mid North Coast Local Health District Southern Cross University North Coast Institute of TAFE.	Partners in Mid North Coast Car Pooling website project.
Nambucca Heads Dune Care	Revegetation of Wellington Rock coastal dunes
Friend of Grassy Park Bushcare Group	Flying Fox site regeneration
Envite	Work for the Dole Group working on Flying Fox Site
Gumma Indigenous Protected Area Group	Clean Up River Day Partner in Whale Day Partner in Walking Track interpretation and tours
Bowraville Central School	Flying Fox site study and tours
Frank Partridge VC Public	Participated in drain stencilling project

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Stakeholder name	Description of participation
School Nambucca Heads	
Wetland Care	Conducted wetland tours
Nambucca Heads Public School	Participated in drain stencilling project
Scotts Head Public School	Hosted and participated in workshops
Valla Beach Pre - School	Hosted and participated in workshops
Yarrowarra Indigenous Cultural Centre	Hosted and arranged for "Yarn Up" workshop to discuss Solitary Islands Coastal Walk with traditional owners.
Darlington Beach Holiday Park Woolgoolga Lakeside Holiday Park Park Beach Holiday Park Sawtell Beach Holiday Park Split Solitary Caravan Park Aanuka Resort Novotel – Pacific Bay Resort Tourism Coffs Coast Coffs Harbour Local Aboriginal Land Council Tourism NSW Precision Helicopters Saltwater restaurant Coffs Visitor Information Centre	Participated in Tourism industry workshop and field day for the Solitary Islands Coastal walk
Various stallholders and participants	Sustainable Living Festivals Bellinger River Festival Stormwater Turtle Day

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8. Monitoring

The main forms of monitoring that have been undertaken for the project are :

- Gathering of statistics on website usage;
- Gathering of statistics on email newsletter usage;
- Feedback forms collected as part of the Council Action learning staff workshops;
- Feedback forms collected from participants in the workshops to develop the Routemap;
- Feedback forms collected as part of the household community engagement workshops;
- Lifestyle changes evaluation forms collected as part of the household community engagement workshops;
- Collation of statistics on areas paved, revegetated, weed control and extent of erosion control measures.

Copies of workshop evaluation reports and monthly usage reports are included in this report and the final evaluation report.

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9. Evaluation

The tables below give a summary assessment of progress towards achieving anticipated outcomes. The assessment is listed in italics under the outcome. Please note these outcomes are the revised ones agreed with our consultant external evaluator and will differ from the original business plan. These changes are summarised below in section 12.

The following outcomes have been used to evaluate the *Our Living Coast* Program. Outcomes detailed below have formed the basis of the evaluation framework for the project. They are listed in an outcomes hierarchy framework, where the outcomes within each project build a project specific hierarchy.

The final evaluation report for the Our Living Coast program is attached and provides considerably more detail than the summary below.. This more detailed report, together with a matching supplementary report was completed by an external evaluator - Grahame Collier of T issues consultancy. The highlights report is contained at appendix eleven.

Program Level Outcomes

Level of Outcome	Outcomes
Ultimate	<p>Widespread adoption of sustainable practices throughout the community indicating that sustainable practices are well understood and resulting in reductions in household energy and water use reduced waste, and local food production.</p> <p><i>This has been achieved – see evaluators report p 24.</i></p> <p>Evidence that the three Councils are working together effectively on sustainability issues at a local and regional basis</p> <p><i>This has been achieved – see evaluators report p 25.</i></p>

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Transport Outcomes

Level of Outcome	Outcomes
Ultimate	<p>Increased use of more environmentally friendly modes of transport. <i>Coffs Harbour City Council staff have replaced car trips with cycling to work related meetings etc</i> <i>Participation in Ride to Work days has increased.</i></p> <p>Evidence of increased use of cycling as a mode of transport. <i>To date, Council staff have replaced 2980 kms of car trips with cycling trips. This will be ongoing.</i></p>
Intermediate	<p>Increased awareness across the region of cycling as a mode of transport. <i>Our Living Coast involvement in Ride to Work Day In Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and Nambucca Shires resulted in an increased number of participants from previous years.</i> <i>The Our Living Coast cycling guide to the region has proved very popular and is now on its third print run.</i></p> <p>Increased use of car pooling among Council staff and in the community. <i>The Our Living Coast car pooling website was launched in 2012. There are currently 168 people who have registered with the site.</i></p>
Immediate	<p>Councils [Bellingen and Coffs Harbour] purchases bikes for use by employees for work related trips – Cycling Racks also made available [Nambucca and Bellingen]. <i>Bikes have been purchased for staff at Bellingen Shire Council and Coffs harbour City Council and cycle racks installed at key locations in Bellingen Shier, Coffs Harbour City Council and Nambucca Shire..</i></p> <p>Cycling and walking route maps available at each Alliance Council. <i>Cycling maps have been produced and distributed.</i> <i>Walking maps have been produced as part of the OLC project for the Solitary Islands Coastal Walk.</i></p>

Sustainability Hub Outcomes

Level of Outcome	Outcomes
Ultimate	<p>Users of the Hub start to change their practices; for example change of light globes, alternate shopping bags etc. <i>Refer to participants survey completed at the end of the project and subject to a separate report.</i></p>
Intermediate	<p>Community awareness of priority sustainability issues and actions is increased. <i>Refer to participants survey completed at the end of the project and subject to a separate report.</i></p> <p>Increasing use of the Hub is evidenced by measuring and providing information about hits and visitors. <i>The gathering of web visitation usage statistics has been done and copies are attached to this report.</i></p>
Immediate	<p>A Sustainability Hub is completed and live on-line; providing information to the community on how to achieve sustainability. <i>The Hub is live and has been launched.</i></p> <p>Baseline assessment of information occurs that identifies what could be provided to the community on sustainability. <i>The community needs survey has been complete and previously forwarded to the Trust..</i></p>

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Council Action Learning Projects Outcomes

Level of Outcome	Outcomes
Ultimate	<p>An agreed process into the future that sees the three Councils work together on ongoing operations.</p> <p><i>Discussions have commenced on the possibility of forming a regional sustainability team across the 3 Council areas.</i></p> <p>Reduction in Council energy, fuel and water use as a result of specific <i>Our Living Coast</i> initiatives.</p> <p><i>A number of projects which have reduced Councils energy, water and fuel usage have been completed. See reports above in section 5.</i></p>
Intermediate	<p>Positive changes in internal Council relationships and processes which assist in moving towards more sustainable operations.</p> <p><i>Two sustainability teams have been formed as a result of the <i>Our Living Coast</i> program : namely at Bellingen Shire Council and Coffs Harbour City Council.</i></p>
Immediate	<p>Improved knowledge and understanding of best practice operations and technologies available to Councils for their own operations.</p> <p><i>The feedback (see attached to this report)on the first of three workshops has confirmed this outcome was met.</i></p>

On-Ground Works Outcomes

Level of Outcome	Outcomes
Ultimate	<p>Completion of erosion control, revegetation and weed removal works in coastal areas.</p> <p><i>Completed.</i></p> <p>Increased urban biodiversity through activities under the Flying Fox project.</p> <p><i>Completed.</i></p>
Intermediate	<p>Increased community awareness of the region’s coastal biodiversity values through improved access</p> <p><i>Completed.</i></p>
Immediate	<p>Improved community access to information about urban biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage values.</p> <p><i>Completed.</i></p>

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Household Engagement Outcomes

Level of Outcome	Outcomes
Ultimate	All householders engaged in the Living Smart program change practices to more sustainable use of water and energy, and improved waste management, purchasing and gardening behaviour. <i>See reports on lifestyle behaviour changes implemented by participants.</i>
Intermediate	Raised understanding of sustainability in 80 households engaged in the EnergyMark Program. <i>EnergyMark program was replaced with Living Smart and then Healthy Homes programs. See separate reports on achievements.</i> Raised awareness of participants in all general Council workshops about sustainable living <i>Evaluation forms from the workshops (see attached to this report) have been favourable in measuring progress on this outcome.</i>
Immediate	Identification of community needs and wants regarding access to information about sustainability. <i>This community needs survey has been completed.</i>

Business Engagement Outcomes – Bellinghen only

Level of Outcome	Outcomes
Ultimate	Businesses in Bellinghen engaged in the program make tangible changes in resource use as a result of the program. <i>See separate report</i>
Intermediate	Businesses in Bellinghen sign-up and become engaged in the program. <i>See separate report</i>
Immediate	Signing up to the project is seen as giving businesses a competitive advantage on a town wide basis. <i>See separate report.</i>

Routemap

Level of Outcome	Outcomes
Ultimate	A shared vision among the three Alliance Councils on how to achieve sustainability in the regions and a Sustainability Routemap that provides the direction. <i>The completed Routemap outlines an agreed vision.</i>
Intermediate	Agreement among the Alliance Councils on sustainability objectives for the region. <i>The completed Routemap outlines agreed objectives for the region.</i> The three Alliance Councils have a common understanding about sustainability issues across the region. <i>The completed Routemap outlines agreed priority issues for the region.</i>
Immediate	Baseline information on sustainability is gathered on previous work undertaken individually by all three Alliance Councils. <i>This report has been completed.</i>

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10. Analysis of project impact on Council governance and embedding sustainability

The project's impact on 2 of the alliance Councils' governance and embedding sustainability in each case has been positive for Bellingen Shire Council and Coffs Harbour City Council. Results for Nambucca Shire Council have been more mixed.

As a result of the Our Living Coast project the Bellingen Shire Council has established an organisation wide Sustainability Team. The team comprises ten staff members drawn from different areas of operation across the Council. The inaugural meeting of the team was held on 28 October 2010. This was facilitated by the Local Government Shires Association as part of the Our Living Coast Council Action Learning project.

The following excerpt from the Our Living Coast Evaluation report (p 29) provides more detail:

Bellingen Shire Council

Council and senior management have been a very strong contributor to Our Living Coast and: *we have gained substantially from it. It is the way we have to go.*

There are a number of indicators of increased support for sustainability from Bellingen Shire. These include:

- Upgrading of Council's Sustainability Officer from a part time to a full time position
- Significant engagement of community volunteers which have increased across the work of the Council
- Significant On Ground works carried out effectively and in a timely manner
- Strong engagement of Council outdoors staff
- Renewable energy activity in Council premises
- Communication across Council. Silos broken down
- The establishment of the BATS team [Bellingen Action Team for Sustainability]. BATS comprises staff members from all sections of Council and has become a cohesive team delivering a range of projects in its first year. For example see the table below

Coffs Harbour City Council has also established an organisation wide Sustainability team. This team comprises fourteen staff drawn from across both internal and outside operations staff. The team has completed a number of sustainability projects. The team currently meets monthly. The following excerpt from the OLC evaluation report provides more detail

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Excerpt from Our Living Coast Evaluation Report p 28

A. Coffs Harbour City Council

Council and senior staff were highly supportive of Our Living Coast and this is demonstrated in a number of ways; support for the establishment and work of the S Team, development and delivery of a number of number of in-house and region wide projects, for example see Transport projects and the On Ground works projects, below. Work in Coffs has been characterised by the following quotes from key informants

- Sustainability is mentioned more in casual and formal discussions and reports.
- Major reports are being delivered electronically to staff, the Councillors and the community
- All Councillors have iPads and the entire Council Business Paper is delivered electronically.
- The recent Local Government Area wide Local Environmental Plan exhibition - instead of multiple copies of hard copy reports being provided to the public, only CD/DVD discs were provided.
- More efficient plant, equipment and vehicles are being introduced into the Council fleet
- Matters relating to sustainability are acted upon more frequently and quickly.[Quote from key informant but supported by a number]

In addition, the following points were raised about actions taken:

- Linkage between indoors and outdoors staff working together
- Strong focus on community engagement [See Sustainability Hub below and the Sustainable Living Festival
- Significant growth in the integration of sustainability into all parts of Council
- Some major in-house projects were supported by OLC. In the box below is a summary of one of these.

It is clear that: CHCC has embraced Sustainability and is “walking its talk”.

The Our Living Coast Steering Committee, comprising senior Council managers has also discussed the need to examine the possibility of establishing a cross Councils S Team comprising representatives from the 3 alliance Councils. This is currently seen as the best mechanism to continue the value gained from the OLC project after the three year funding period ends. It is also considered by the Committee to be the most effective way to further the work done in completing the sustainability Routemap.

The Our Living Coast project has placed sustainability higher in the thinking of senior managers across the 3 alliance Councils. General managers and Directors have been exposed to the project through briefings, events etc In a sense the project has made sustainability “come alive” in their minds through practical projects, involvement of staff and real actions rather than just remain conceptual in nature.

The project launch in October 2010 brought the 3 Council mayors together on sustainability for the first time. This was a breakthrough event and a key milestone in our journey towards sustainability for the region. Each Mayor gave a presentation on what sustainability meant for their Council area and the region and these were well received. See attached media clippings. This coming together was a very real expression of the benefits of the Our Living Coast project is assisting to embed sustainability firstly in the minds of senior Council officials and staff and through this the organisation.

Council staff comprising directors and managers who participated in the development of the Routemap provided feedback at the conclusion of the workshops. This feedback shows that the project has assisted in moving sustainability more to the forefront of senior staff thinking.

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Feedback results for two responses have been summarised below. The directors and managers were offered six response choices:

- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A fair bit
- Quite a lot
- Very much so

1. When asked: *did the workshops help you understand more about the potential for shared sustainability initiatives across the Our Living Coast region ?* :

80 % responded either: quite a lot or very much so.

2. When asked: *did the workshops improve your understanding of possible ways to identify and develop shared sustainability projects involving the three Alliance Councils?*:

75 % responded either quite a lot or very much so.

Similarly the Council Action learning workshop conducted to date sought feedback from Council operations staff. This feedback has disclosed that overall the workshop assisted staff's understanding of the relevance of sustainability to their work operations.

Nic Denshire, Sustainability Officer Bellingen Shire Council summed up his perception : “ *The project has engaged many levels of operational and management staff and has brought sustainability to the front of mind for the organization. I now know the names of individual officers at the other Councils and incidentally hear of projects and ideas from the other project participants that could work at our Council. The creation of the sustainability hub is leading toward a regional approach to sustainability reporting and helps all councils access a broader cross-section of the regional community.*”

In contrast, the Nambucca Shire Council project team member has indicated that while progress has been made, the pace of take up and change has been slow. Disappointingly NSC was not able to form an S Team due to resource difficulties. The real impact of the Our Living Coast project has been felt far more in the Nambucca community where attendance at events, workshops etc has been very high. It is anticipated that the lasting legacy of OLC on Nambucca Shire Council will come from increased community demand for sustainability initiatives.

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11. Delays / Difficulties Encountered

The delays and difficulties we have encountered to date with the project are listed below.

11.1. Clarification of On Ground Works Funding Arrangements

There was an initial lack of understanding amongst the three alliance Councils on how the budgeted amount for On Ground Works would be divided. The methods discussed were either : divided evenly, apportioned on a per head of population basis, or apportioned on project worth such as sustainability need or effectiveness.

This took some time to clarify and agree upon. The process was assisted by the development of criteria for the selection of projects. The decision reached at general manager level was to apportion on the basis of fairness to each Council and demonstrated project need and effectiveness.

11.2. Selection of On Ground Works Projects

Considerable difficulty was experienced in selecting on ground works projects and then obtaining approvals. Final approvals from the Trust were not obtained until Nov 2011. The main reasons for these difficulties are listed below :

11.3 Staff shortages

Council staff on the Our Living Coast project team have been responsible for co-ordinating Council project selection, costing, planning and documentation. This has proved to be an onerous task given staff's other job responsibilities. For example, Nambucca Shire Council has only one staff member directly responsible for environment / sustainability and this includes investigating environmental compliance issues as well co-ordinating involvement in a number of projects including Our Living Coast.

11.4 Weather events

During 2009 and 2010 all three alliance Councils were declared disaster zones on seven occasions due to flood events. This meant a lot of Council staff resources and effort were concentrated on these events.

11.5 Initial project selection

Initially the steering committee investigated the possibility of a community based solar project. Upon enquiry to the Environmental Trust this was deemed not eligible under the USP grant.

The project team and the steering committee in mid 2010 also developed a major on ground works project titled the *Our Living Coast Great Ocean Walk : Walking With the Whales* from Scotts Head to Coffs Harbour through the 3 alliance Council LGAs.

Closer investigation, due diligence and stakeholder consultation has brought the committee to the realisation that while an exciting and visionary project, its scale and scope is beyond the resources and timeframe of Our Living Coast. The committee is taking a cautious but realistic approach. This further investigation took some months and delayed the commencement of on ground works. Since that time considerable time and effort was put into finding alternative projects.

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11.6 Final project approvals

Final project approvals were not obtained from the Trust until Nov 2011. This required an extension request to the Trust to amend the project finishing date from 31 Jan 2012 to 31 Dec 2012.

While this delay occurred, it must be stated that the resultant agreed and approved projects were far superior than earlier versions and a lot of this improvement must be credited to suggestions from Trust staff on how better sustainability outcomes could be achieved. Section 12.5 below details these changes.

11.7 Household engagement - EnergyMark

The Our Living Coast steering committee agreed in early 2010 that the CSIRO EnergyMark program would be rolled out in our region as part of the Our Living Coast household engagement project. We commenced discussions with EnergyMark in mid 2010, however, delays at the CSIRO in discussions with the NSW Govt. caused us to look for alternatives to EnergyMark.

We designed and delivered our own workshop series with Living Smart and then Healthy Homes for households.

11.8 Transport

We had some difficulty in developing a complete set of viable transport projects under Our Living Coast. These were eventually agreed but this did take longer than expected to reach agreement. In addition, an extra project needed to be developed following advice from the Trust to the Our Living Coast steering committee that a proposed light rail feasibility study was not eligible under the grant guidelines.

11.9 Business Program

The rollout of the small business engagement proved very difficult. The reasons are explained in detail above in section 5 to this report.

11.10 Internal Financial Arrangements

The mechanics of the financial arrangements between the three Councils in expending the grant took longer than anticipated to develop. The process had probably been "over bureaucratic" and slow. A more streamlined system should be developed for future projects which will still meet audit requirements.

11.11 Expending the funds

The Our Living Coast budget was a very large funding amount and the financial report attached to this progress report shows underspends in some areas. The Steering committee made the very conscious decision not to spend funds "for the sake of it" but instead funds were only expended when a project was viable and would produce results.

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11.12 Staff changes

Important staff changes occurred within the Our Living Coast project team and one of the alliance Councils: Bellingen Shire Council.

The Our Living Coast project employed two staff : a program supervisor and a community engagement project officer. The project officer was appointed in March 2010 and subsequently resigned from the position in May 2011. This resignation occurred approximately at the half way mark of the project. A replacement staff member was appointed in early July 2011 and commenced duties in August 2011.

The Bellingen Shire Council OLC project team member resigned and finished duties in Sept 2011. A replacement project team member commenced in Feb 2012. A period of familiarisation took place and placed an extra workload on other Bellingen SC staff and the OLC project team.

11.13 Other issues

Each of the three Councils is at different stages of its journey with sustainability and this has had to be catered for. In addition, historical issues in the relationship between the 3 Councils had to be acknowledged and finally, there is often a difference in priorities between two rural Councils and a largely urban one.

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12. Modifications

Modifications to the project which have occurred are detailed below in six categories :

- 12.1 Changes to outcomes proposed in the original business plan;
- 12.2 “One off” changes that took up opportunities as they arose;
- 12.3 Staff changes and a consequent job classification change;
- 12.4 Project completion timeline changes;
- 12.5 Changes to the on ground works projects.
- 12.6 Budget changes.

Each is summarised below.

12.1 Changes to outcomes.

The table below details changes to outcomes listed in the agreed original business plan against the new outcomes as agreed with our external evaluator in early 2010. The ability to measure the outcomes was paramount in our reassessment and rewording. The new outcomes also reflect the result of a lot of discussions amongst the OLC project team on how better to clarify our intended results.

Transport Outcomes

Original Business Plan Outcomes	Amended Outcomes
A decision by bus companies as to whether to meet unmet demand by providing more / better services Increased use of cycling as a commuter mode of transport	Increased use of more environmentally friendly modes of transport. Evidence of increased use of cycling as a mode of transport.
Increased awareness across the region of cycling as a viable transport mode Installation of more cycle ways	Increased awareness across the region of cycling as a mode of transport. Increased use of car pooling among Council staff and in the community.
Installation of more bike racks Workshops held on better transport options Completion of cycling route maps Purchase of Council bikes for sue by staff	Councils [Bellingen and Coffs Harbour] purchase bikes for use by employees for work related trips – Cycling Racks also made available [Nambucca and Bellingen]. Cycling and walking route maps available at each Alliance Council.

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Sustainability Hub Outcomes

Original Business Plan Outcomes	Amended Outcomes
<p>Consistent sustainability reporting shows that sustainability is being reached and concepts have been grasped by the wider community</p> <p>Widespread adoption of sustainable practices throughout the community</p>	<p>Users of the Hub start to change their practices; for example change of light globes, alternate shopping bags etc.</p>
	<p>Community awareness of priority sustainability issues and actions is increased.</p> <p>Increasing use of the Hub is evidenced by measuring and providing information about hits and visitors.</p>
<p>Final Regional SOE report</p>	<p>A Sustainability Hub is completed and live on-line; providing information to the community on how to achieve sustainability.</p> <p>Baseline assessment of information occurs that identifies what could be provided to the community on sustainability.</p>

Council Action Learning Projects Outcomes

Original Plan Outcomes	Amended Outcomes
<p>Reductions in Council energy and water use</p> <p>More sustainable procurement policies</p> <p>Decrease in waste generated by Councils</p> <p>Improved biodiversity protection</p> <p>Increased of more sustainable transport options by Councils</p>	<p>An agreed process into the future that sees the three Councils work together on ongoing operations.</p> <p>Reduction in Council energy, fuel and water use as a result of specific <i>Our Living Coast</i> initiatives.</p>
<p>Positive changes in internal Council relationships and processes which assist in moving towards more sustainable operations.</p>	<p>Positive changes in internal Council relationships and processes which assist in moving towards more sustainable operations.</p>
<p>High awareness among Council staff about both the advantages and methods of adopting sustainability in Council operations</p> <p>Implementation of best practice operations and technologies is commenced according to an agreed plan to be implemented annually over 5 years</p> <p>An agreed process into the future that sees the 3 Councils work together on ongoing improvements</p>	<p>Improved knowledge and understanding of best practice operations and technologies available to Councils for their own operations.</p>

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On-Ground Works Outcomes

Original Business Plan Outcomes	Amended Outcomes
<p>Improved connectivity of natural areas in urban settings across the region</p> <p>Increase in length of walkways / cycle ways / boardwalks providing access and information to residents about urban biodiversity and natural and cultural values</p>	<p>Completion of erosion control, revegetation and weed removal works in coastal areas.</p> <p>Increased urban biodiversity through activities under the Flying Fox project.</p>
<p>Increase in suburban habitat and wildlife corridor creation</p>	<p>Increased community awareness of the region’s coastal biodiversity values through improved access</p> <p>Improved community access to information about urban biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage values.</p>
<p>Improved connectivity of natural areas in urban settings across the region</p> <p>Increase in length of walkways / cycle ways / boardwalks providing access and information to residents about urban biodiversity and natural and cultural values</p>	

Household Engagement Outcomes

Original Business Plan Outcomes	Amended Outcomes
<p>Following promotions, workshops and demonstration projects, 5% of the region’s householders have implemented some additional sustainability measures after the project started</p>	<p>All householders engaged in the Living Smart program change practices to more sustainable use of water and energy, and improved waste management, purchasing and gardening behaviour.</p>
<p>Raised community understanding of sustainability issues</p> <p>Thirty individual households and ten households as a “ street ” together giving 40 in total from each of the 3 alliance Council areas for a grand total of 120 households, change practices in water, energy, waste, buying and gardening.</p>	<p>Raised understanding of sustainability in 80 households engaged in the EnergyMark Program.</p> <p>Raised awareness of participants in all general Council workshops about sustainable living</p>
	<p>Identification of community needs and wants regarding access to information about sustainability.</p>

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Business Engagement Outcomes – Bellinghen only

Original Business Plan Outcomes	Amended Outcomes
Signing up to the project is seen as giving businesses a competitive advantage over those that don't sign up 60 businesses sign up in the first twelve months of the project 60 audits are completed 80 % of audit recommendations are fully implemented 20% of audit recommendations are partially implemented Rebates and incentives taken up	Businesses in Bellinghen sign-up and become engaged in the program. Signing up to the project is seen as giving businesses a competitive advantage on a town wide basis.

Routemap

Original Business Plan Outcomes	Amended Outcomes
A shared vision amongst stakeholders and the three alliance Councils on how to achieve sustainability in the region and a sustainability route map that provides the direction Consistent sustainability reporting	A shared vision among the three Alliance Councils on how to achieve sustainability in the regions and a Sustainability Routemap that provides the direction.
Agreement on sustainability objectives for the region Agreement on governance arrangements and processes that will see the 3 alliance Councils working together on sustainability issues on a regional basis Regional scenarios for future development Strategies for a transition to sustainability Implementation strategy Monitoring and evaluation strategy Documented sustainability route map Stakeholder and Council awareness of priority sustainability issues and actions Reporting framework developed	Agreement among the Alliance Councils on sustainability objectives for the region. The three Alliance Councils have a common understanding about sustainability issues across the region.
	Baseline information on sustainability is gathered on previous work undertaken individually by all three Alliance Councils.

12.2 One off changes that took up opportunities as they arose :

The following additions to the project were taken up in order to promote both sustainability and the Our Living Coast project itself:

- Ride to Work day sponsorships 2010, 2011 and 2012.
- The Our Living Coast Coffs Harbour Sustainable Living Festival Oct 2010 and Nov 2012
- Bellinghen Renewable Energy Forum June 2011.
- The OLC Facebook page
- The OLC Newsletter
- Other OLC events that promoted the program such as the Bellinger River Festival 2011.

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12.3 Project team staff change and job reclassification

The Our Living Coast project employed two staff: a program supervisor and a community engagement project officer. The project officer was appointed in March 2010 and subsequently resigned from the position in May 2011. This resignation occurred approximately at the half way mark of the project and immediately followed the interim project evaluation first report.

Upon a review of the recruitment process to put in place to appoint a replacement project officer, the OLC project team and steering committee considered a report on salary levels in capital cities for comparable positions within Local Government for sustainability engagement officers. The conclusion reached was that the grading (and consequent salary) would need to be increased if we were to attract a project officer with the required skills and experience to complete the project. Time was also of the essence and an appointment that did not meet the skills required would not have been conducive to meeting project outcomes. This decision was also made based on the assumption that a successful applicant with the required skills would unlikely be drawn from the local community but instead would more likely be from Sydney, Brisbane or Melbourne. This proved to be a correct assumption.

The proposed regrading of the position was discussed with the Coffs Harbour City Council Manager Human Resources and it was determined that based on comparative positions elsewhere the position would be need to be regraded from a previous Grade 24 level 4 to Grade 26 Level 1. The alliance Councils also agreed with this assessment.

This resulted in an increase in the advertised salary from \$55,000 to \$72,000. Ultimately we attracted a quality candidate from Melbourne. A replacement staff member – Elle Morrell - was appointed in early July 2011 and commenced duties in August 2011.

This higher salary meant we obtained a high quality project officer with a high skill level and resulted in greater environmental outcomes than would otherwise have been the case. Elle came to the project with considerable project management and community engagement experience including at a national level. These greater outcomes include:

- Increased environmental awareness of newsletter subscribers due to a more frequent and higher quality newsletter being produced and distributed;
- Increased environmental awareness of additional newsletter subscribers;
- Increased environmental education of households in the community due to a new Facebook subscription program which attracted over 300 new subscribers. This was partly attributable to our new project officer utilising her skills to secure a donated Solar PV system from a local supplier as a competition prize;
- A more thorough education of participants in sustainability by offering a series of a minimum of four workshops to be completed by each participant rather than attending “ one off ” workshops;
- Our new project officer also wrote the content and presented two workshops on “Ethical Shopping“ and “Green Renters”. The education value of these workshops would not be available without these additional skills and knowledge.
- A higher number of workshop participants (in fact 100 %) completed evaluation and behaviour change forms for analysis to better allow assessment and analysis of outcomes.

12.4 Project completion dates

The OLC project final report submission was originally set at 31 Jan 2012. Due to reasons set out in submissions to the Trust, approval was obtained to extend this date to 31 Jan 2013.

Our Living Coast
 Final Project Report
 (Grant number 2008/usm/0007)



12.5 Changes to on ground works projects

As discussed above in section 11 a number of changes and modifications were made to proposed on ground works projects. This included a number of meetings and telephone / email discussions with Trust staff. While the delays caused by these discussion and obtaining final approvals caused difficulties for project and Council staff, there is no doubt the result was far superior projects were delivered. The table attempts to summarise these changes and the subsequent improvements.

The table does not include the flying fox projects as these essentially remained as originally proposed.

LGA	Original proposed project	Final agreed project	Improvements and enhancements
Nambucca	Walk bridge across EEC swamp Lower Nambucca Redesign of Effluent Treatment of Regional Sale Yards servicing Bellingen, Coffs Harbour and Nambucca Cattle and livestock producers.	Nambucca River Estuary Protection Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More holistic and connected project; - Better sustainability outcomes; - More community engagement; - More quantifiable; - Links to previous grant funded projects i.e River Action Plan.
Bellingen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dangar Falls Dorrigo township Antarctic Beech forest track upgrade and interp. Signage 2. Urunga lagoon - Sand walking loop & boardwalk 3. Urunga lagoon - Littoral Rainforest walking loop 4. Hungry head north track and signage 5. Mylestom spit revegetation and rehab. 	Bellinger River and Island Restoration project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More holistic project; - More community involvement; - Better sustainability outcomes; - Commitments to ongoing maintenance; - Better links to Council strategic plans.
Coffs Harbour	“ Walking with the Whales ” track installation. Bruxner Park Sealy Lookout	Coffs Harbour Coastal Headlands Environmental protection, Education and Ecotourism project incl. Solitary Islands Coastal Walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More achievable project; - Ecotourism and sustainability included; - Better sustainability outcomes; - Better links to Council 2030 plan; - More indigenous people involvement; - Delivers on longstanding community aspiration.

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12.6 Budget Changes

On 5 April 2012 the Steering Committee met to review the budget for the project and assessed likely budget variations. A request to vary the relevant budget line items was submitted to the NSW Environmental Trust in a letter dated 11 April 2012. The Trust responded with a number of queries in relation to the requested budget changes and indicated that more information will need to be provided.

A submission dated 11 May 2012 was lodged in response to those queries and formed a further request for the budget changes to be approved so as to allow the consequent tasks to be completed by 31 December 2012.

Approval was obtained from the Trust in a letter dated 13 June 2012.

The approved budget changes are listed below.

No.	Item	Current Budget	Suggested Change	Amended budget	Explanation for change
1.	Transport project	99000	(30000)	69000	To reflect actual amount spent
2.	Council Action Learning	150000	(7000)	143000	To reflect actual expenditure
5.	On Ground Works - CHCC	304990	20000	324990	To fund nature based tourism strategy and consultations required by Trust
6.	On Ground Works – Regional FF	20000	12000	32000	To fund regional flying fox program management plan required by Trust
7.	Council Action learning	143000	(44000)	99000	To reallocate Nambucca SC projects from CAL to Healthy Homes
Total net changes to be allocated as follows :					
8.	Healthy Homes – workshops etc	123400	44000	167400	Reallocate net changes to Healthy Homes community engagement
	Healthy Homes – Project officer salary		5000		See salaries notes and explanation below.
TOTAL NET CHANGE			0		
9.	Interest earned on project funds		108,802		Calculated and estimated by CHCC finance section.
10.	Salaries		108,802		Allocate interest to salaries.

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13. Timetable

The table below sets out the original timetable as agreed with the Trust in developing milestone and progress reporting requirements and compares this with a new proposed timetable that was agreed and resulted in approved project extension dates.

Appendix ten also provides a diagrammatic timeline of major events that occurred throughout the life of the OLC project.

Milestone	Original completion date	New Proposed completion date	Milestone instalment
Project team formed, partnership roles agreed, MOU developed	31 July 2009	31 July 2009	\$100,000
Employment of Project Supervisor	20 Sept 2009	20 Sept 2009	
Business plan submitted	20 Sept 2009	20 Sept 2009	
Business plan reviewed, resubmitted and approved	31 Dec 2009	31 Dec 2009	
Employment of Project officer	28 Feb 2010	28 Feb 2010	
Engage "Hub" consultant	15 Mar 2010	15 Mar 2010	
Engage Project evaluation consultant	15 Mar 2010	15 Mar 2010	
Engage Routemap consultant	20 April 2010	20 April 2010	
Engage Council action learning consultant	31 May 2010	31 May 2010	
Baseline data collection for Routemap	31 May 2010	31 May 2010	
Needs analysis for education workshops completed	31 May 2010	31 May 2010	
Partnership and Agency workshops	15 June 2010	15 June 2010	
Hub first pages up	15 June 2010	15 June 2010	
Household program convenors recruited	15 June 2010	15 June 2010	\$600,000
Draft Routemap completed	30 June 2010	30 June 2010	
Project launch	1 July 2010	1 July 2010	
Household program commenced	1 July 2010	1 July 2010	
Routemap Development finalised	31 July 2010	31 July 2010	
On ground works identified, planned and commenced with partners	31 July 2010	31 July 2010	\$437,780
Hub " Live " and finalised	31 Oct 2010	31 Oct 2010	\$500,000
Business plan review and resubmitted	1 Mar 2011	1 Mar 2011	
Council Action learning project completed	31 March 2011	30 June 2011	\$361,040
Community engagement projects completed	30 April 2011	31 Oct 2012	
Undertake project evaluation with partners	31 Oct 2011	3 Nov 2012	
On ground works completed	30 Nov 2011	31 Dec 2012	
Final report to Environmental Trust	31 Jan 2012	31 Jan 2013	

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14. Permits and Approvals

The following permits and approvals were required for on ground works conducted under the project :

- Review of Environmental Factors – Solitary Islands Coastal Walk- NSW National Parks;
- Part 5 Environmental Assessment - all projects – alliance Councils;
- Cultural clearances;

- All on ground works projects in Coffs Harbour City Council and Nambucca Shire were overseen by traditional owners.

- Plans of management developed under the flying fox project will assist Councils to ascertain those permits / approvals required under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act and the Federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act.

15. Financial Statement

Attached to this report at appendix 12 is a certified financial statement from commencement of the project until 31 December 2012.

16. Visual Documentation

Attached at Appendix 9 are samples of media clippings related to the project. These do not include those previously submitted to the Trust in progress report dated Dec 2010.

This report also contains a sample of project photos are attached at Appendix 13. These and many more are available in electronic form if required.

Our Living Coast End of Program Participants' Survey

End of Program Participants Survey



December 2012

Our Living Coast is an alliance of Coffs Harbour City Council, Bellingen Shire Council and Nambucca Shire Council and is assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust.

Bellingen Shire
COUNCIL



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**“Fabulous program - a wonderfully safe and supportive way to learn and apply practical changes to help our environment. It's made us much more conscious consumers - we consume and use less and choose carefully anything we buy”
~ respondent**

This report has been developed jointly by Elle Morrell, Our Living Coast Project Officer, and Grahame Collier, T Issues Consultancy, Our Living Coast Evaluator.

It forms a part of the overall evaluation of the Our Living Coast Program.

Our Living Coast thanks all of those people in the community who took the time to complete this survey.



Figure 1. Our Living Coast Final Celebration Event, Bellingham November 2012

Introduction and Purpose

Our Living Coast (OLC) is an alliance project of Coffs Harbour City Council, Bellingen Shire Council and Nambucca Shire Council and is assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust. Although, primarily a program of completing on-ground environmental rehabilitation and enhancement works as well as a residential community education program, there were many other subsidiary outcomes including a transport project.

An on line survey was conducted for a five week period targeting participants from the Healthy Homes community education program and newsletter readers, to provide post program data for program participants.

184 people started the survey with 166 people [88%] completing the survey.

The survey was launched on 11 October 2012 and closed 18 November 2012, with the general purpose to assess the Our Living Coast program through feedback from a

self-selected group of people who had been involved. The survey complemented a range of other evaluative mechanisms for Our Living Coast. It was promoted through the OLC e-newsletter (which has 634 subscribers), Healthy Homes events and the OLC Facebook page. An incentive for people to complete the survey was offered. Entry was voluntary and the prize for the winner of the competition was an iPad. This was an optional opt in for this competition which every respondent entered. One hundred and eighty four people started the survey, with 166 [88%] people completing the survey.

The survey had a total of 36 questions, including those about entering the competition to win the prize, and questions about demographics. It was divided into two sections:

- for those who received the monthly OLC e-newsletter only
- for those who received the monthly OLC e-newsletter and participated in either Living Smart or Healthy Homes workshop programs.

It was designed to garner feedback on the OLC program, its communication platforms including Website, Facebook and the Newsletter, and to ascertain whether pro-environmental behaviours had resulted from the OLC program, were being sustained, and what barriers there may be in implementing environmental actions. As such it complemented a significant range of evaluation processes that were used in the final review of the OLC Program.

The OLC Program team along with the independent evaluator decided to design and conduct this survey at the program s conclusion to a) assess the impact of the Our Living Coast communications and workshop programs and b) to complete the picture from the Jetty Research telephone survey that was conducted at the beginning of the project. While no comparisons between the Jetty Research and this survey are analysed here, because the Jetty research drew data from different populations and had a different intent, it is interesting to note the existence of the earlier survey in helping to shape the

program. A summary of the Jetty Research findings are included in Appendix 1. They were used to shape the content of the workshop program and also had an impact on content of the newsletter and the data that was placed on the website. Hence they were important in providing structure and direction for the program. Results from this current survey and other evaluation processes, complete the cycle.

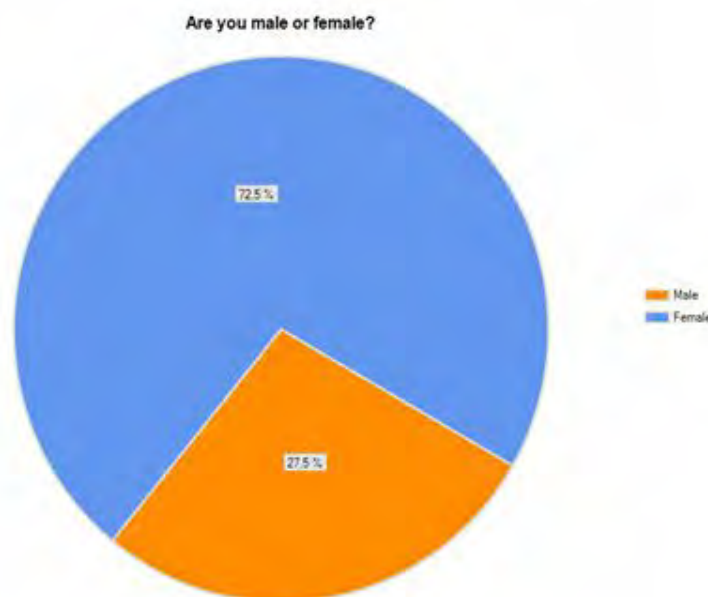
Essentially then, the purpose of the survey was to obtain feedback on the program following from, and separate to, its delivery mechanisms. Data in this report provides some post-program feedback from a self selected group of participants, who could access and complete an on line survey.



Figure 2. Mylestom Healthy Homes graduates, May 2012

About the survey – the Demographics

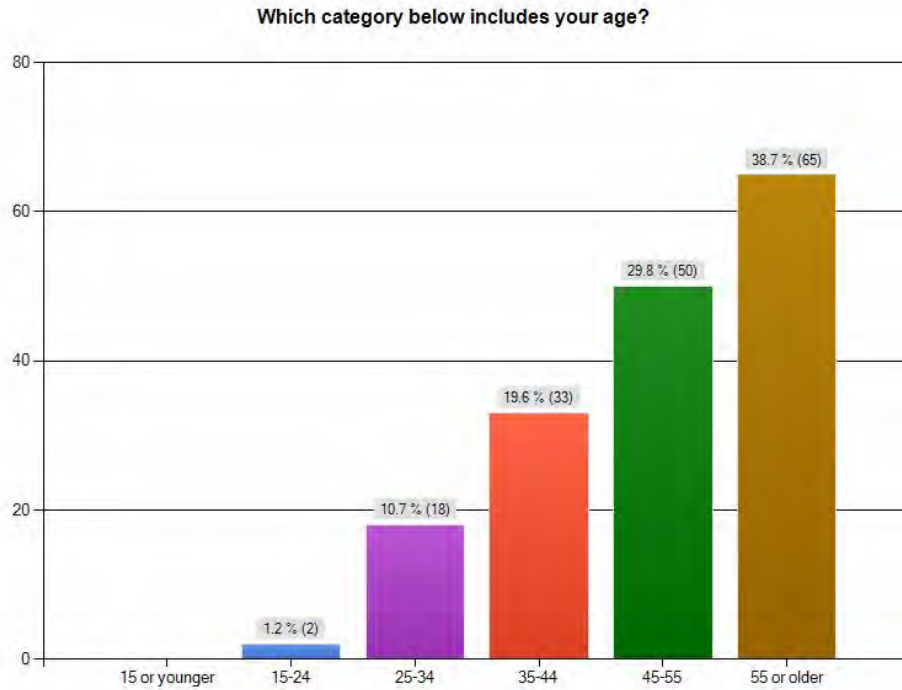
Respondents to the survey were typically female, spoke English as a first language and the majority were drawn from an older demographic. Nearly three quarters of respondents [72.5%] were female compared with 27.5% males. It is difficult to draw a conclusion from this that females are generally more concerned than men about the environment but the finding would suggest that they are more likely to participate in a program of this nature in this region and possibly that they are more likely to complete a survey on line.



It is difficult to draw a conclusion from this survey that females are generally more concerned than men about the environment but it would suggest they are more likely to participate in a program of this nature in this region...

The graph below indicates age was reasonably spread but with a definite leaning towards people over 55 years of age older age category. Although it must be noted the category 55 or over is a much bigger

spectrum than the other categories. It is likely that more refined results would have been achieved if the survey design was categorized 55-65 and 65 over.



Thirty one point five percent of respondents were aged below 44 while 29.8% were between 45-55 years of age. The cohort of respondents who were under 44 is quite pleasing considering in the Mid Term Our Living Coast Evaluation Review it was noted that the [workshop] audience was mainly retirees. A concerted effort was made to try and broaden the appeal of the program by being more flexible with the hours of workshops and communications to reach out beyond retirees who had demonstrated that they had the time to attend. This result indicates there was moderate success in this strategy, and it is pleasing given that younger people are generally time poor, bringing up children and purchasing, maintaining property etc.

From this data there is limited evidence that the survey/program reached people who did not speak English at home.

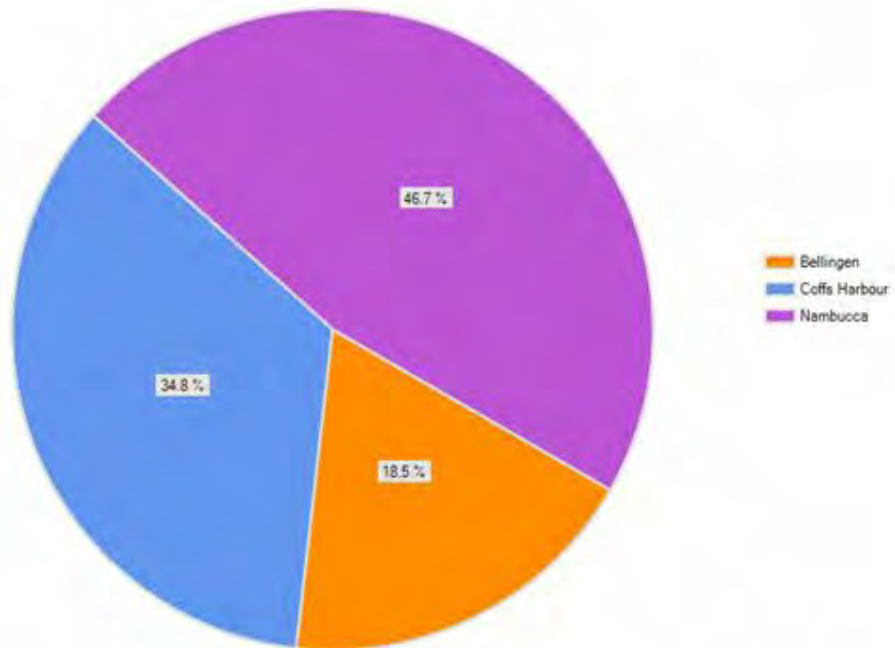
Of the 163 respondents, 100% spoke English at home however three people also spoke French, one German, one Italian and two Vietnamese. Of the six other responses, four wrote that they spoke Australian, one Pidgin and one Tagalog sometimes. These results indicate more could have been done to reach out to and include people of other cultures.

Nearly half of respondents resided in Nambucca Shire [46.7%] followed by Coffs Harbour [34.8%] and Bellingen [18.5%]. The strong response from Nambucca residents could relate to the fact that Nambucca Shire had been involved in very little environmental education programs before Our Living Coast.

Bellingen has a strong reputation for ongoing environmental activity and has delivered significant programs previously, therefore, the Healthy Homes workshops specifically targeted people in communities that had received fewer programs previously, for example, Urunga and Mylestom. This strategy appeared successful as response rates were pleasing and response the program was positive. It is not surprising that the overall response to the survey was lower in these areas, partly because there would appear to be limited internet access among people in these areas of Bellingen.

It should be noted that because the survey was carried and promoted on line, internet capacity and access did impact upon pick up and completion of the survey.

Please select your Council area that you reside in now: (Please only select one)



Overall the response rate to the survey was pleasing especially given that it followed the program delivery and was not promoted at the time of delivery.

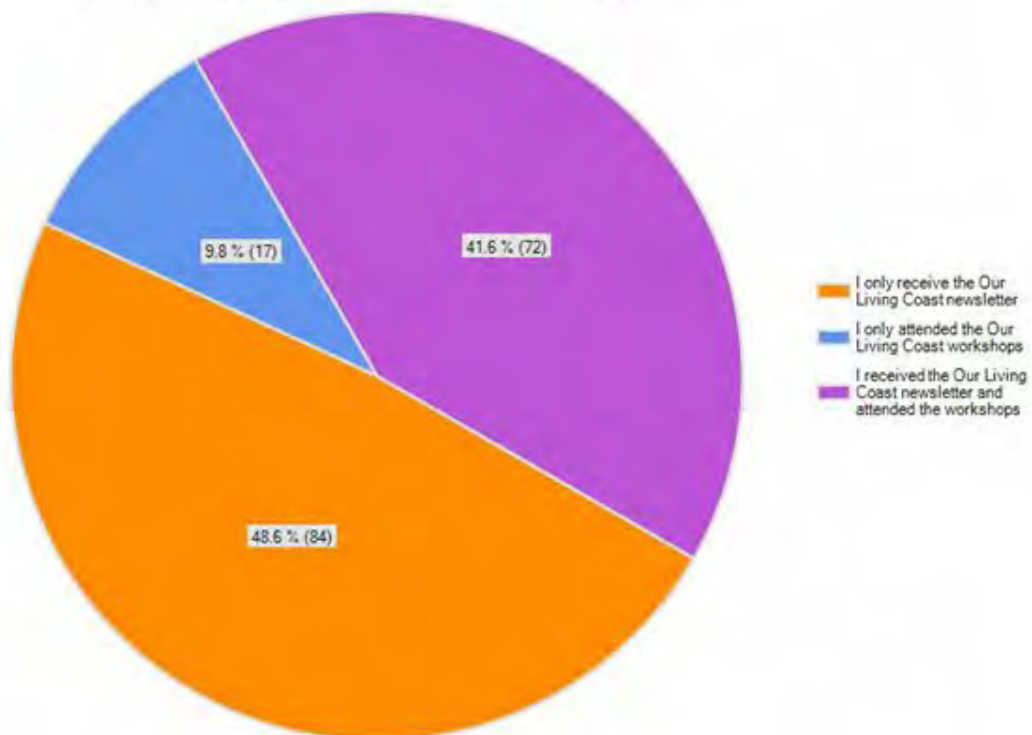
The Findings

Findings Related to the Newsletter

Finding 1. The Our Living Coast Newsletter was a highly successful component of the program.

The following diagram indicates that of the 173 people who completed this question on the survey, 48.6% [84 respondents] received the newsletter only. A further 41.6% [72 respondents] received the newsletter and attended a workshop. Hence the following data about newsletter effectiveness has been provided by 156 respondents from across the entire sample.

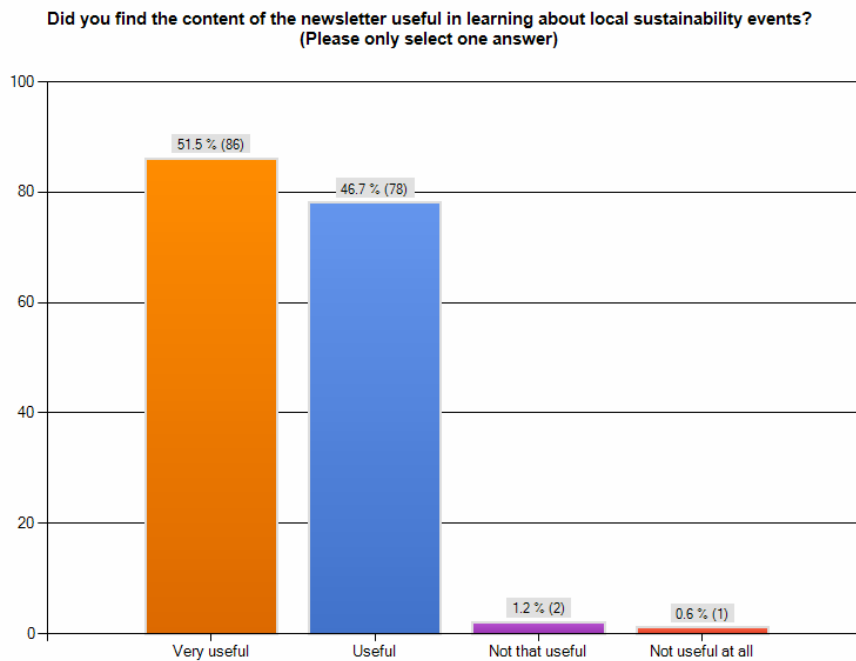
Please select the statement that is most relevant to you:



There was a high level of satisfaction with the content of the Our Living Coast Newsletter, with over 97% of respondents being satisfied or very satisfied see the following table.

Overall, how satisfied were you with the content of the Our Living Coast email newsletter?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very satisfied	52.4%	88
Satisfied	45.2%	76
A little bit unsatisfied	2.4%	4
Unsatisfied	0.0%	0

The Newsletter was useful for learning about local events. The graph below indicates that all but three of the respondents felt that the Newsletter was useful or very useful.



In addition to the quantitative data, respondents made the following comments about the utility of the Newsletter:

- *It was very useful you got to know what was going on for sustainability events.*
- *We have had nothing like the Our Living Coast project in our shire and all information contained in the newsletters was useful, whether I went or not.*
- *It contained great, easy to understand information.*
- *I would like to see the range of events include the schools sustainability also.*

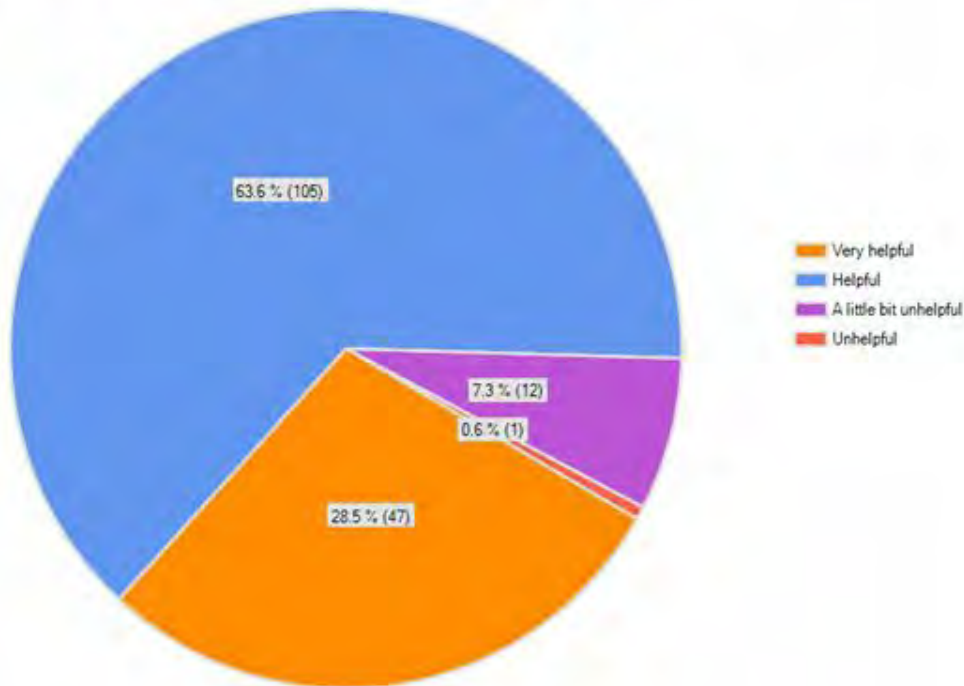
Over 60% of people who received the Newsletter attended events that it promoted. Almost 8.5% were not sure if they had attended an event promoted in the newsletter. This was somewhat surprising, but indicates that these people could not recall what motivated their attendance. See data table below.

Did you attend any local sustainability events that you read about in the Our Living Coast email newsletter? (Please select one)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	61.7%	103
No	29.9%	50
Unsure	8.4%	14

There were two additional comments that provide food for thought: *I didn't learn much that I did not already know. They [the events promoted in the Newsletter] required attendance which chewed up too much personal time.*

The Newsletter was helpful [63% of respondents] very helpful [a further 28.5% of respondents] in making lifestyle choices.

Did you find the content of the Our Living Coast newsletter helpful when trying to learn about more sustainable lifestyle choices that you could make? (Please select one)



Finding 2. The Newsletter alone prompted behaviour change

Of the 164 people who completed the survey and had read the newsletter, 42.7% made lifestyle choices related to information that was provided in the Newsletter. This is a pleasing result, because it indicates a level of change that is much higher than that achieved from other social change/social justice publications. Achieving change via written publication is a challenging exercise and this finding is highly important. See detailed results below.

Did you make any changes to your lifestyle which you read about in the Our Living Coast Newsletter?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	42.7%	70
No	35.4%	58
Unsure	22.0%	36

Note the high percentage of unsure in this data table is interesting. It indicates that there is some doubt that the Newsletter prompted change by these people because they can't recall an example. The answer unsure maybe interpreted as a yes but given that many of the respondents also attended workshops it is likely that they cannot recall whether change was prompted by the workshop or the Newsletter.

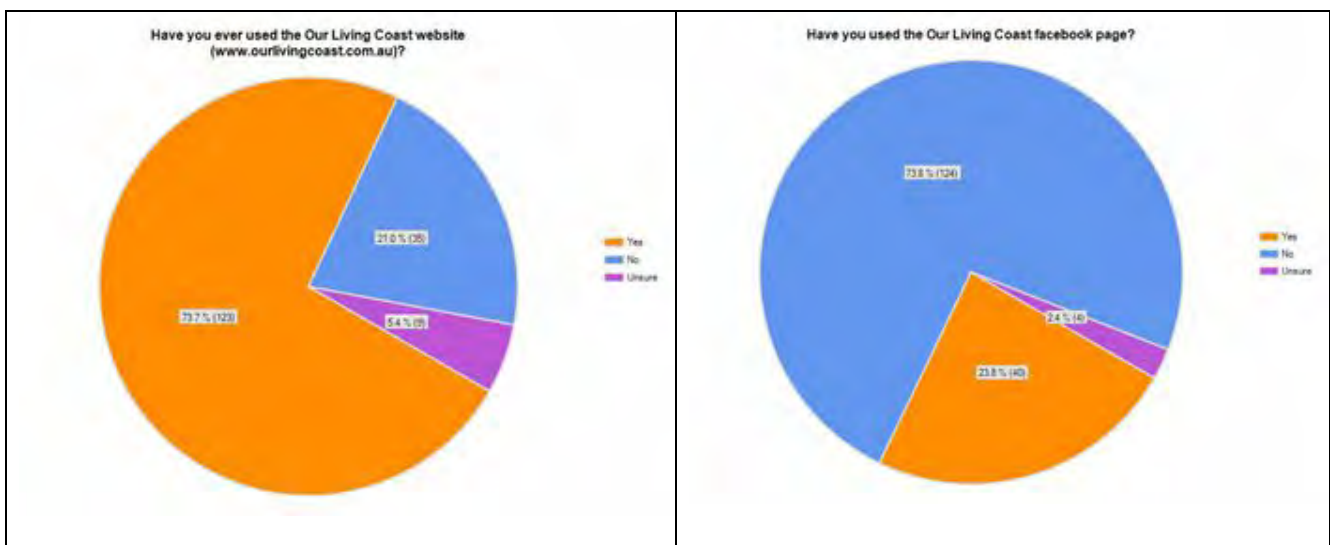
There was a high level of satisfaction with the content of the Our Living Coast Newsletter, with over 97% of respondents being satisfied or very satisfied.

Findings Related to the OLC Website and Facebook Page

Finding 3. The community engaged with both the OLC Website and Facebook, however the engagement with the Website was stronger. Satisfaction levels for both Website and Facebook was high.

Below is a comparison of whether respondents used the OLC Website and Facebook page. The results are almost inversed with 73.7% [123] of people responding that they use the Website while 73.8% [124] of people reported not using Facebook. This could in part correlate with the older age group of respondents who typically have not embraced social media like Facebook.

It is noted that the Facebook page and the website are complementary strategies for engagement, along with the Newsletter and the workshops and the events. As such the variation in the reach of each method is to be expected.



Eighty four percent [108 people] indicated that the Website was either useful or very useful with a relatively small 7.8% [10 people] indicating it was only a little bit useful. No-one thought the website was not useful however 8.5% [11 people] were unsure whether it was useful. This latter group probably reflects on occasional website users.

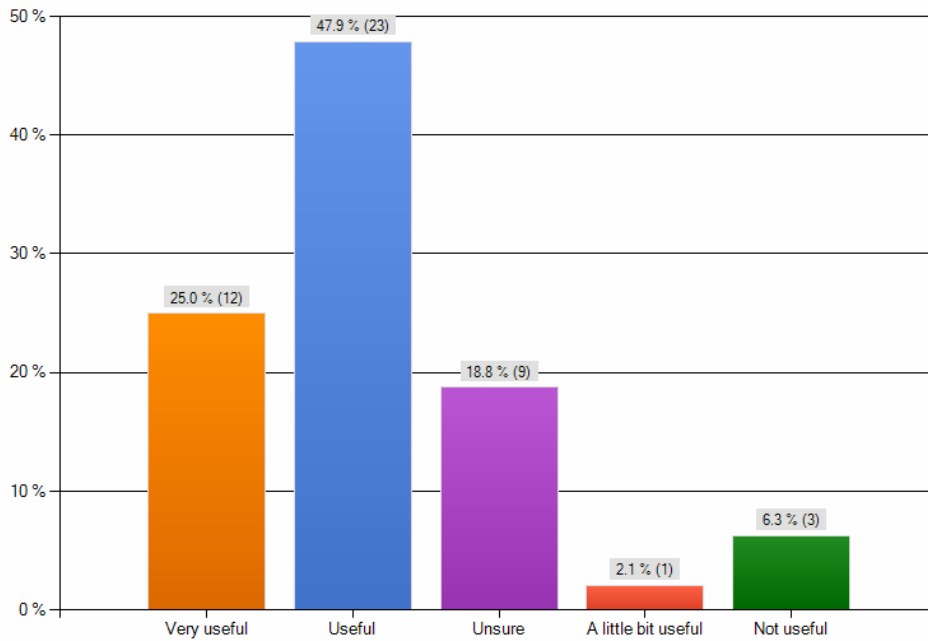
The full data table related to this finding is included below.

Have you found the OLC Website useful?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very useful	24.0%	31
Useful	59.7%	77
Unsure	8.5%	11
A little bit useful	7.8%	10
Not useful	0.0%	0
<i>answered question</i>		129
<i>skipped question</i>		55

In contrast 73% [35 people] indicated that the OLC Facebook page was very useful or useful . However this question only had 48 respondents with 136 skipping the question as seen in table below. There was a relatively high number of people 18.8% [9 people] who were unsure as to whether the OLC Facebook was useful and 6.3% [3 people] found it not useful.

To what extent have you found the OLC Facebook page useful?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very useful	25.0%	12
Useful	47.9%	23
Unsure	18.8%	9
A little bit useful	2.1%	1
Not useful	6.3%	3
<i>answered question</i>		48
<i>skipped question</i>		136

If you answered yes to the previous question, to what extent have you found our facebook page useful?



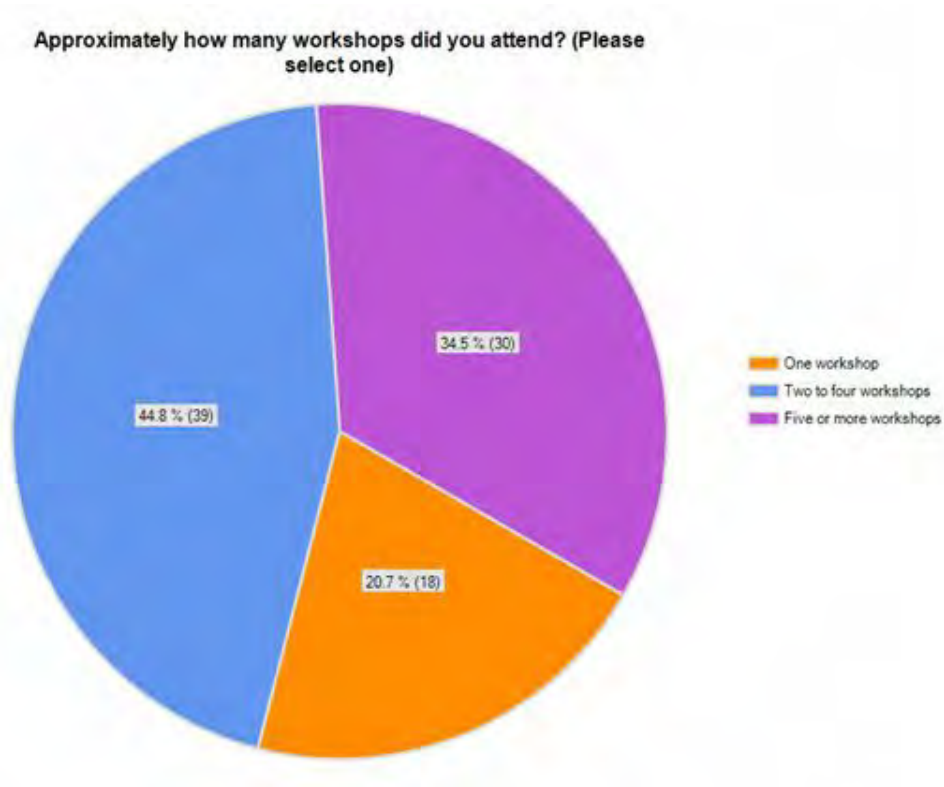
73.8% [124] of people are not using Facebook. This could in part correlate with the older age group of respondents who typically have not embraced social media like Facebook.

Findings Related to the Workshops

The following findings all relate to the Workshops component of the program. There are a number of these and each is listed and discussed in turn.

Finding 4. Multiple workshops were attended by many people.

Of those who completed the survey, the majority attended more than one workshop. Twenty one percent attended one workshop only and in contrast 34.5% attended five or more workshops. This is a positive result for the program because workshop attendance is an important measure. It should be noted however that given that respondents self selected to complete the survey, it may be that those who attended multiple workshops chose to take the time to respond to the survey.



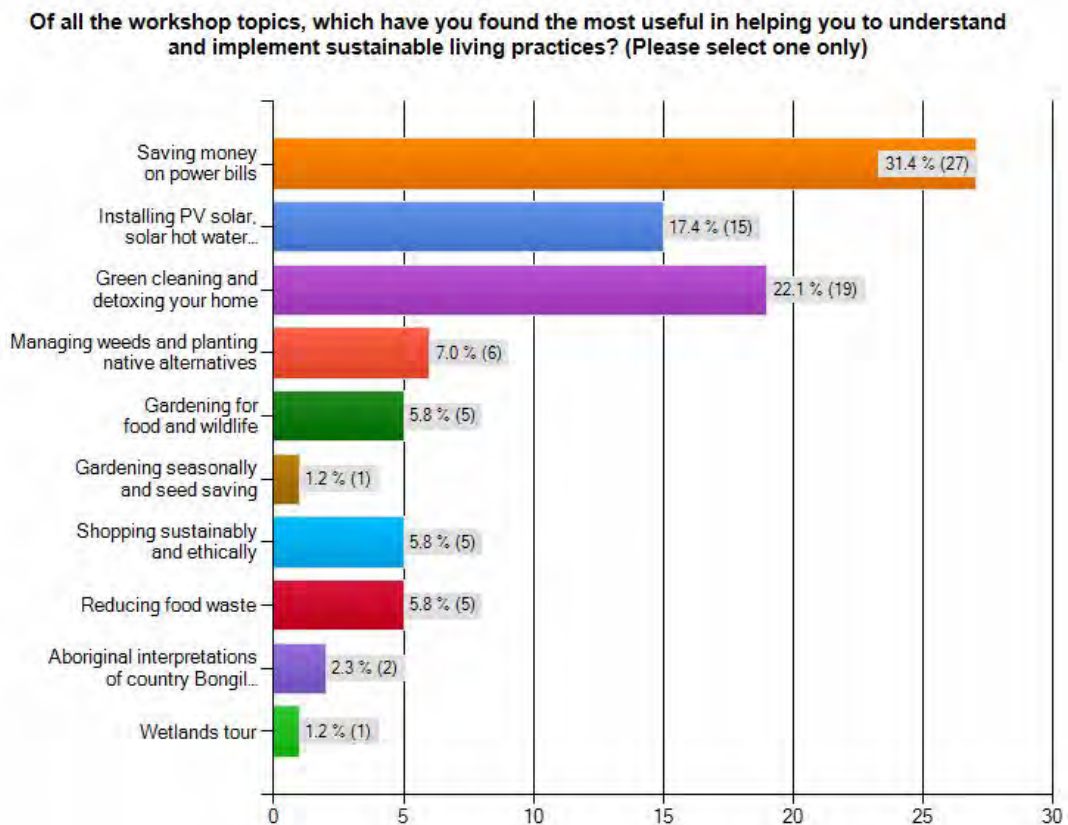
Finding 5. There was a very high level of satisfaction with the workshops.

The table on the next page indicates that 64% were very satisfied and 34.9% were satisfied. No-one was unsatisfied. Our Living Coast can be very happy with this result. A 98.9% satisfaction rating is remarkable, even allowing for the self selected nature of respondents.

Overall, how satisfied were you with the content of the workshop/s? (Please select one)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very satisfied	64.0%	55
Satisfied	34.9%	30
A little bit unsatisfied	1.2%	1
Unsatisfied	0.0%	0

Finding 6. Of all the topics energy efficiency and renewable energy were the most useful workshop topics.

It is interesting to gauge which topic from the suite of sustainability issues captures people's interest. When asked to choose which one workshop topic was most useful nearly 50% said the ones related to energy (48.8%). This was followed by green cleaning and closely followed by workshops to do with gardening. This is topical considering the introduction of the carbon tax occurred during the conducting of the workshops as well as electricity bills generally increasing in price due to installation of poles and wires in NSW.



Finding 7. The majority of people attending workshops (83%) made changes in their lifestyle as a result of workshops

Almost 83% of those who attended the workshops and completed the survey indicated that they made changes as a result of the workshops. This is a satisfying and compelling result. The capacity of the workshops to promote behaviour shift was a key objective of this program and the fact that change was made is an important finding.

The capacity of the workshops to promote behaviour shift was a key objective of this program and the fact that change was made is an important finding.

Did you make any changes to your lifestyle which you learnt about in the workshop/s? (Please select one)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	82.8%	72
No	12.6%	11
Unsure	4.6%	4

Finding 8. An extensive range of significant self reported changes were made as a result of the program.

Sixty nine people who attended the workshops and received the Newsletter answered this question, from a total of ninety nine who might have answered it [70%]. Many gave multiple answers and so it is incorrect to assume that each respondent made just one change.

Quotes indicating that multiple changes were made include:

I have become more aware of ensuring I have no food waste. I have "stand alone" power, so I was very interested in conserving power. I have begun to use bicarbonate of soda in my washing and cleaning. This was a result of the Green Cleaning workshop.

Heaps - weeds, knowing what is and what is not, saving water and how to, thinking about your power and how to save money and use, gardening what brings the right bugs into your garden I could go on I have learnt heaps not only from the presenters but also from the people attending the workshops.

Now I use homemade cleaning solutions and have more native plants in my garden and removed the non-native potentially bioweeds.

The behaviour change data in the final Our Living Coast Evaluation report will provide additional evidence of change generated by the program. It is substantial.

Reported changes that had occurred related to a number of related issues prompted by the workshop content and the newsletter. The following table provides examples only. There are many more changes reported in the survey results:

<p>Energy Saving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Conscious of power usage and switching off when not in use.</i> • <i>Training the children to turn off appliances at the power point before they go to bed at night.</i> • <i>Learnt how to save money on power bills, which I made the most changes.</i> • <i>I have installed solar power to supplement grid supply.</i> • <i>Better management of fridge/freezer temperatures.</i> 	<p>In the garden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Different approach to weeding.</i> • <i>Made more time to get back into my organic veggie garden.</i> • <i>Growing vegies more successfully.</i> • <i>Have made compost heaps, and part way through building the chicken run. Planting more native trees. committing to the veggie garden.</i> • <i>Composting and raised garden beds.</i>
<p>Recycling and waste reduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Being more careful what I throw out into the red bin garbage eg food stuffs.</i> • <i>Regularly doing/applying different ways of food waste reduction.</i> 	<p>Cleaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I have changed my cleaning habits. I no longer use bleach or harsh cleaning chemicals in my home, but use vinegar and bicarbonate soda instead.</i> • <i>I don't have bad cleaning items in my home any more.</i> • <i>Detox home - reduced the variety and volume of chemical used. Substituted bleaches and cleaners for bicarbs, ethanol and vinegars.</i>
<p>Shopping Ethically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We have a money jar for the kids and a competition to have a lower bill each time.</i> • <i>Shopping ethically.</i> • <i>Sourcing organic foods.</i> • <i>Buying items with less packaging.</i> 	<p>Other things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pledging to be more attentive to all of the concepts.</i> • <i>Telling people what I am doing.</i> • <i>Sharing the info with other women who missed the workshop and explained the benefits of applying those strategies both in the short run and in the long run.</i> • <i>Reduce use of car, use bike more and walk.</i> • <i>More effective use of car, cycling, tank water maintenance.</i>

Finding 9. Some changes made as a result of the program were hard to sustain.

Only 27 respondents answered this question which could be taken to mean that most people did not find changes hard to sustain. Those that did raised a number of issues about maintaining the following actions. These have been grouped and example quotes are provided:

- Electricity saving actions: *Getting used to turning off the power at the power point and not just turning off the appliance - not competent at setting up the power gauges and the remote switches.*
- Gardening actions: *Being completely organised in weeding is tricky.*
- Shopping actions: *Shopping- this takes so much longer and sometimes cost is a factor. Sustainable and ethical shopping in a small town is hard - Do I drive to Coffs to shop ethically/sustainably adding my use of car or shop locally in the Woolworths supermarket?*
- Cleaning: *A lot of natural methods require a fair amount of muscle and sometimes this is hard.*
- General issues: *Because it takes time and commitment to implement lots of changes. Setbacks such as ill health, travelling away, etc impinge on the ability to maintain some of them*
- *I sometimes forget!*

Finding 10. Eighty percent of respondents indicated their intention to make further sustainability lifestyle changes into the future.

One hundred and forty seven respondents answered this question. So this data includes changes inspired by Workshops and Newsletter. Most respondents provided data about more than one change that they intended to make for example: *Yes, install solar and make a big veggie garden and orchard, keep chickens.* Or: *Yes. As I gather more knowledge about solar systems, green gardening and power reduction I can put them into place. I currently own an old house so some solutions are more costly and not always suitable for my situation.*



Respondents focused on changes on four major areas, energy reduction, water reduction gardening/ecosystem and shopping. It is noted that this is in line with the major workshops in the Healthy Homes series and so it can be extrapolated that the content is prompting a shift.

The most popular specific actions related to the installation of solar hot water: *Yes - new solar water system for installation next year. When we buy a property we will add solar and ensure a passive solar*

design. People were less certain about solar power: Install solar hot water and possibly power. Cost is clearly an issue here, see barriers below. Although some people did flag significant change here: Add more photovoltaic panels to our roof to ensure we can produce more than we use each year. Another said: Am aiming to move into solar power. Will continue to use solar hot water (have done for past 25 yrs).

Reducing water usage was important: *Yes, water saving toilets have just been installed. Water tank installation was clearly another area where behaviour change was intended: We are planning on a large water tank and further native gardens. Others are planning to: Buy more water tanks, building bigger vegie garden, making larger compost area, planting more native trees and grasses.*

Gardening issues were a key feature of the responses. Some want to do more: *Composting, More no dig garden beds. Others said they would: Grow my own vegetables. I will plant more vegetables for food. Some are integrating a number of approaches, for example: we are currently starting a vegie garden we have a fish pond made from recycled materials. The main change I'd like to make is install a herb garden along our front boundary as we live across the road from a retirement village so I feel by doing this the elderly could have access to herbs whenever they want them. Another said: Information gathering in relation to sustainable garden ideas.*



Responses about shopping were interesting in that they largely related to a combination of improved shopping practices and more food produced at home . For example: *Try to buy more locally, to support small local business, and e.g. get my gifts from shops in Bellingen instead of going to a larger retail shop. Will continue to grow my own vegies and will collect seeds and redistribute. Will visit the community garden more often and am planning on doing some voluntary work next year when my child starts school.*

A number of other issues were raised:

- *Use of reed bed water treatment in 2013.*
- *Yes have reduced plastics coming into the house, another 25% this year, after reducing footprint a few years back, e.g. have replaced plastic tooth brushes with bamboo, no longer buying butter in plastic tubs, replaced broken plastic bucket with galvanised metal one, no longer buy liquid soap, back to local made soap without the plastic container, etc, etc...*
- *Seed-savers in the future and learn from their experiences and knowledge.*

Overall comments of note included:

Yes I believe that it is an ongoing lifestyle for me to do and as I learn more I will be doing more changes that benefit me and my friends.

I have been following the sustainability lifestyle since the mid 70's. With big emphasis on recycling anything possible. I will keep doing so.

Finding 11. Despite intentions to continue changing, respondents reported that there are some barriers to making further sustainability lifestyle changes.

Seventy four percent of respondents gave an indication of the barriers that exist in making sustainability changes at home. Of this group over 80% indicated that money was the major barrier, for example: *The cost of energy efficient is mostly too expensive; Living now in a suburban block and on retirement income; Cost of solar; Financial difficulty at the moment, so I can't modify my house to save power; Money, government grants and subsidies have all but disappeared in the last few years; Mainly cost as we are trying to do this on an across the farm scale as well in the home.*

There are additional issues for renters: *Being in a rental property (power and water issues) and budget (costs somewhat more to buy sustainably and ethically) is a large barrier.*

Some other issues were raised by a smaller percentage of respondents and these have been grouped under Personal Issues and Other Miscellaneous Issues.

Personal issues:

- *Me being organised!*
- *Difficult to attend workshops due to work commitments.*
- *Technical competence in setting up our house. Knowing how much electricity the hot water system uses.*
- *Health issues - Unable to undertake work on and around the house whilst recovering from an operation.*
- *I'm a terrible gardener.*

Other Miscellaneous Issues raised include:

- *Shopping Centres can cause barriers with what goods they bring in as they like to dominate what we buy.*
- *Time and energy required to do it.*
- *The fact that we do not have input into Bio - fuel in the Mid North Coast. Also that I cannot ride a bike to reduce my carbon footprint. As mentioned if I could ride a bike I could get around without driving.*
- *Council regulations/ Council and government polices at times,*



- *Poor return on power generated - we are not at home during day to take advantage of solar power generated at this time for washing, cooking etc....*

There were some comments that sounded a cautionary note about the program and its capacity to promote ongoing change. These were in a very small minority and all of them are recorded below, with some commentary.

One respondent said: It's just another program that ticks boxes to show it has achieved a goal when in reality it has not. This is a challenging comment, but it is difficult to take it further without more information. The results of the individual workshops might throw more light on it see final Our Living Coast Evaluation Report.

In the age bracket that prefers only limited use of technology. Prefer reading printed matter and outside away from screens. This comment related to the presentation mode of the workshops, the use of powerpoint and course notes being on a USB stick pen to save paper (although printed notes were made available for those who didn't want to use a USB or computer).

Most of the people attending these workshops and chasing this information are already environmentally conscious. Most of the time you're "preaching to the converted". The messages are generally simple, practical and pitched pretty low. Much of this information should be delivered to primary and secondary schools. The best chance of changing the habits and behaviours of much of the community is through the younger age groups. The oldies are a bit of a lost cause. If they haven't got the message by now are they ever going to? This comment is of interest. The workshop program did capture older people certainly. But the lifestyle and behaviour data provided in the final report of the project and information contained in other aspects of this report does not support the view that they are either converted or a lost cause.

I find the format of the e-newsletter is not user friendly in that you keep having to follow links to get to "more information". This is too fragmented and means I am less likely to follow through. You need to put more (but not all) of the basic story for each item in the newsletter itself.

Finding 12. Our Living Coast was a highly successful education/engagement program, prompting connection and change.

At the completion of the survey respondents were asked to make overall comments about the program. The data below is obtained from 100 respondents who completed this question.

I would love it if Our Living Coast continued. I would love to attend more workshops. I thoroughly enjoyed the ones that I attended and Elle¹ was just wonderful. Thank you!

¹ Refers to Elle Morrell, the Our Living Coast Program Officer

The overwhelming view was that the program was effective. By far and away the comments provided were positive about the program the Workshops, the Newsletter, Facebook, the Website etc. The quotes below provide a summary of the major feedback.

Fabulous program - a wonderfully safe and supportive way to learn and apply practical changes to help our environment. It's made us much more conscious consumers - we consume and use less and choose carefully anything we buy.

I like the way you draw people in to participate. I think you need to be as strong as you can be, to emphasise the importance of doing everything possible to help the natural environment.

Actually I think it is great that councils and governments are working toward a sustainable future...I believe ideas will grow as more and more people become more aware how important sustainability is, education is the key and setting challenges that do not overwhelm them.

It was a really useful experience even if only to reinforce the need for sustainability and reconfirm that that we are not alone in trying to care for the environment, each in our own small way. Everyone doing their own little bit soon adds up to something that really makes a difference.

Quite an amazing and interesting program.



Figure 3. Energy efficiency workshop, Nambucca Heads, August 2012

Finding 13. Respondents provided some advice for the future of programs of this nature.

Respondents made a large number of comments related to a possible future for the program. These are summarised in the quotes below and raise some interesting challenges.

Promotion of the program/Workshops: A number of comments were received about promotion. The following quotes summarise the views expressed:

- *More advertising is needed; of all the people I told about it only one knew about it, four of them attended more than two workshops.*
- *There are still some of us who don't use Facebook*
- *I am only just coming to grips with the full impact of using websites and social media. Overall, I find it quite overwhelming, and when I am busy and focused on other things I tend to ignore computer.*

When taken together these comments point to the need to promote the program more broadly into the future.

Continuing the program. There were significant comments about the need to continue the program. The following quotes outline/summarise this feedback.

I would like to see more campaigns to empower the local residents to do more activities in their area such as recycle more, join up with Landcare, keeping pets on a lead in leash areas. Small communities need lots of prodding maybe attending for example CWA, pensioners meetings, P&C school meetings to attract younger people to attend.

Needs to be repeated so we can get to those who couldn't get to workshops. Note this comment was made by a large number of respondents, for example: Great ideas and effort of Elle, I think people in general need repetition and to have them again is a good idea to target more people.

Please keep doing the mini workshops in different towns as they are usually topics that are easy to incorporate into individual situations.

Necessary additional components. A number of telling comments were made about more effectively delivering the program into the future.

Low income earners are at a significant disadvantage to install or implement facilities to improve their position due to either initial or ongoing costs - it is however a considerable amount of low income earners who are subsidising those who can afford it. Maybe it should be the other way around! How about some lobbying for schemes for those who are less well off, instead of just telling them to turn off the switch.

It'd be great to run the workshops again but reach a younger audience. Yes, separate educational & healthy home workshops for the Youth would encourage greater participation of the younger member of the community. Perhaps hold some workshops at Youth Centres.

I do love how the Our Living Coast project really did connect with local people at a local level...that is really important...and the concepts need to go to schools, and so many community groups, e.g. CWA, U3A, etc. and Elle is marvelous.

Key Findings and Conclusions

The key findings from this survey are summarised below:

The Newsletter was a significant and successful component of the Our Living Coast Program. (97% of respondents reported there were satisfied or very satisfied with it)

Change in behaviour was prompted by the Newsletter with 42.7% of respondents to the survey able to identify at least one change because of the Newsletter content alone.

The community engaged with both the OLC Website and Facebook, however the engagement with the Website was stronger with over 73% of respondents engaging with it.

Satisfaction levels for both Website [83.7%] and Facebook [72.9%] was very high.

Workshops were a highly successful component of the Our Living Coast program with an overall satisfaction rating of 98.9%. This comprised 64% who were very satisfied with the workshops and 34.9% who were satisfied. These are astounding figures for a workshop series and Our Living Coast staff and the workshop presenters should be proud of providing a workshop series of the highest quality.

Those attending the workshops reported that they had made behaviour shifts as a result of the program. 82.8% of respondents reported that they had changed behaviors and many reported multiple changes. People reported energy saving changes, waste reduction and recycling, changes in cleaning and shopping behaviour, changes in the garden, a whole range of other changes. Important among these was telling others about what they are doing.

People indicated that change was not that easy to make at times. Money was a major barrier, especially when change options were considered in the energy reduction and shopping actions. For many cost is a factor that limits their capacity to make changes that they want to make.

Despite the limiting factors most respondents indicated that they intended to make more change into the future. Installing solar hot water was the most popular change for the future. Saving water through the installation of water tanks, changing shopping practices and growing vegetables were also key changes identified by many respondents.

Overwhelmingly respondents indicated that they wished this program to continue into the future. They identified some improved processes and ideas for how this might occur.

Significant community traction has been established through Our Living Coast. It would be unfortunate if this was allowed to dissipate because the Newsletter and Website were not maintained and that workshops did not continue into the future. Many in the community have indicated that they believe that the three Councils [Coffs Harbour City, Bellingen Shire and Nambucca Shire] have a responsibility to continue to build on the achievements of the Our Living Coast Program.

In conclusion, the community engagement/education component of the Our Living Coast Program was highly successful. The following quote from one workshop participant encapsulates feedback given by most of the respondents to this survey: *Fabulous program - a wonderfully safe and supportive way to learn and apply practical changes to help our environment. It's made us much more conscious consumers - we consume and use less and choose carefully anything we buy.* The program has engaged people in a range of face-to-face and on line education that has increased knowledge and led to significant and continuing changes in behaviour.

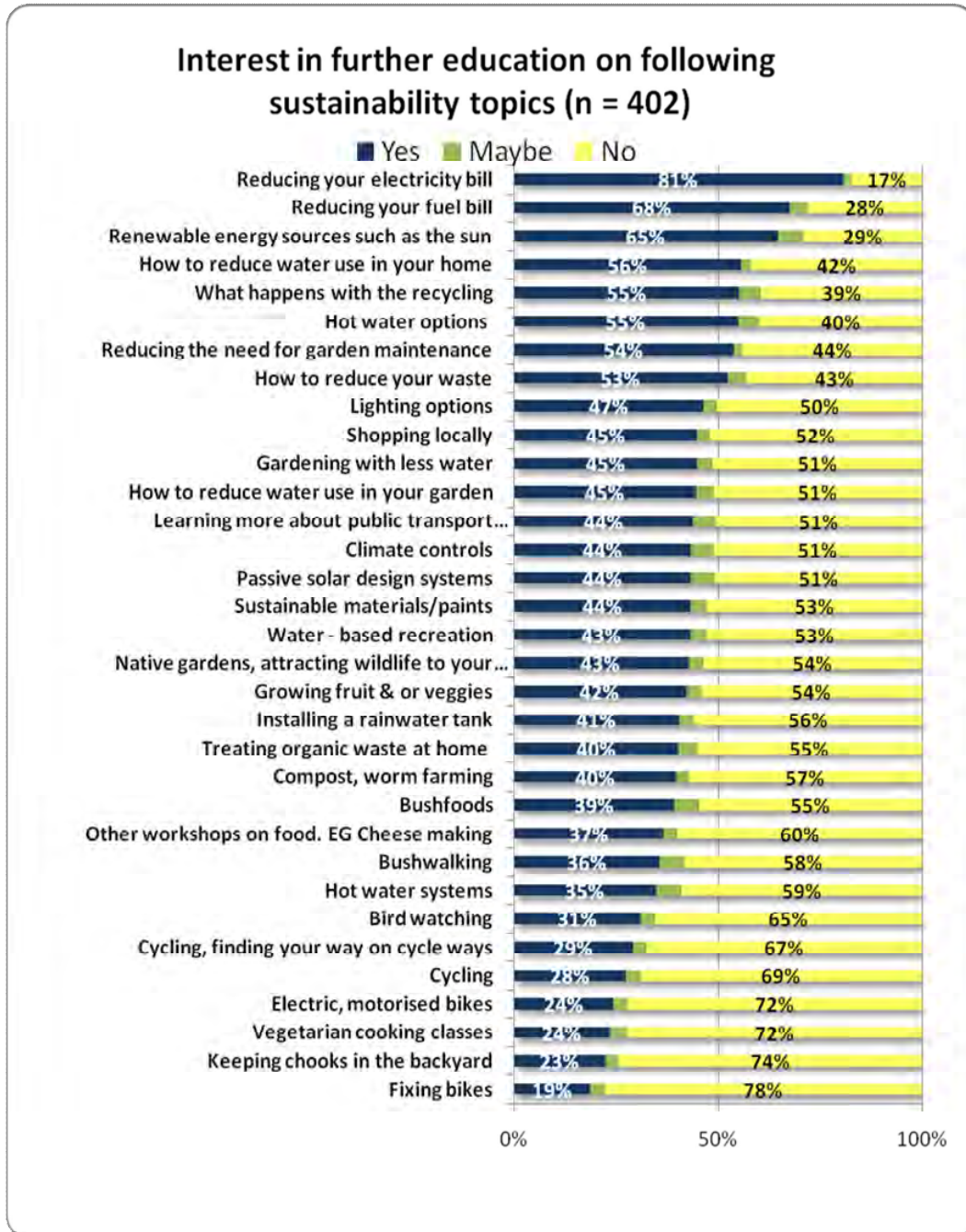
There are challenges for the future in determining how the gains made by Our Living Coast can be continued. It is clear that the community wants this to be the case.



Figure 4. OLC Celebration Event November 2012

Appendix 1. Jetty Pre Project research

This summary breaks results down by topic within the pre program research conducted by Jetty Research. Key areas of desired content are summarised below, from highest to lowest perceived interest levels.



BANK BALANCES AND INVESTMENT FOR JUNE 2013

Purpose:

To list Council's Bank Balances and Investments as at 30 June 2013.

Description of Item:

A copy of the state of Bank Balances and Investments as at 30 June 2013 is attached.

It should be noted that Council is required to account for investments in accordance with the Australian International Financial Reporting Standards. As such the ledger balances at the end of each month reflect market value movements which would be inclusive of accrued interest.

Interest when paid, say quarterly, would result in reductions in the market value of the investments.

The Investment Report reflects the above requirements and reflects the interest earned (or accrued) on each investment, based on the acquisition price. Interest income for 2012/13 is yet to be finalized and the figures presented in this report for interest income are preliminary only. A revised report will be provided when amounts have been audited later in the calendar year.

Reports written by CPG Research & Advisory Pty Ltd (Council's investment portfolio advisors) which examine economic and financial markets data for June 2013 and review the performance of Councils investment portfolio for month ended 30 June 2013 are available in the Councillors Resource Centre.

Sustainability Assessment:

- **Environment**

There are no perceived current or future environmental impacts.

- **Social**

There are no perceived current or future social impacts.

- **Civic Leadership**

Council invests surplus funds to maximise investment income and preserve capital to assist with funding requirements for projects listed under the Coffs Harbour 2030 Community Strategic Plan.

- **Economic**

Broader Economic Implications

Council's investments are held according to the requirements stated within Council's investments policy and the returns are acceptable in relation thereto. In the long term earnings from investments can vary due to economic conditions and financial markets. Council constructs its investment portfolio with consideration of current conditions and to comply with the DLG investment policy guidelines.

Delivery Program/Operational Plan Implications

For June 2013 it is noted that after deducting, from the total bank and investment balances of \$169,642,436 the estimated restricted General, Trust, Water and Sewerage cash and investments (\$167,471,362) the Unrestricted Cash is \$2,171,074.

Further details are provided as a note on the attachment.

Recommendation:

1. **That the bank balances and investments totaling (from loans, Section 94 and other avenues that form the restricted accounts and are committed for future works) one hundred and sixty nine million, six hundred and forty two thousand, four hundred and thirty six dollars (\$169,642,436) as at 30 June 2013 be noted.**
2. **That the general fund unrestricted cash and investments totaling two million, one hundred and seventy one thousand, and seventy four dollars (\$2,171,074) as at 30 June 2013 be noted.**

BANK BALANCES AND INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

Attachment

	Credit Rating at 30/6/13	Legal Maturity	Acquisition Price \$	Market Value as at 1/6/13 \$	Market Value as at 30/6/13 \$	Income Earned (net of fees) Financial Yr to Date \$	Monthly Return (Managed Funds) / Current	Risk of capital not being returned
OVERNIGHT FUNDS:								
Cash - Fair Value movements through profit & loss								
NAB - Bank Accounts	AA-			4,054,214	2,786,020	112,733	2.56	Low
UBS Cash Management Trust	AAA			128,575	48,702	(9,149)	2.02	Low
Members Equity Bank - Business Investment Account	BBB			24,425	25	779	3.50	Low
NAB Professional Funds Account	AA-			7,530,564	9,290	219,401	3.15	Low
Delphi Bank - Cash Mment Acc't	A-			222,489	10,492	10,964	2.50	Low
Rabodirect - Savings Account	AA			162	-	398	3.15	Low
Rabo Bank - Premium Cash Manager	AA			1,003,267	1,006,575	6,575	4.00	Low
Suncorp Business Saver	A-			320	321	8	3.25	Low
CUA Prime Access	NR			81	82	993	0.01	Low
Total				12,964,099	3,861,507	342,702		
BENCHMARK RATE - 11 AM INDICATIVE CASH RATE								
							3.13	
BENCHMARK RATE - UBS BANK BILL INDEX								
							3.28	
Term Deposits - Fair Value movements through profit & loss								
Investec 17/11/14	BBB-	17/11/2014	8,000,000	8,018,155	8,067,667	602,400	7.53	Low
Investec 29/6/16	BBB-	29/06/2016	1,000,000	1,068,765	1,074,905	74,700	7.47	Low
Investec 8/7/15	BBB-	8/07/2015	1,000,000	1,064,594	1,070,520	72,100	7.21	Low
Investec 8/8/16	BBB-	8/08/2016	2,500,000	2,635,633	2,649,379	167,250	6.69	Low
Investec 6/6/17	BBB-	6/06/2017	2,000,000	2,107,012	2,007,154	108,800	5.44	Low
Investec 14/8/15	BBB-	14/08/2015	1,800,000	1,891,641	1,901,154	115,740	6.43	Low
AMP 24/5/16	A	24/05/2016	5,000,000	5,007,048	5,037,253	367,500	7.35	Low
AMP 10/3/14	A	10/03/2014	2,000,000	2,020,022	2,027,173	27,173	4.35	Low
Arab Bank*	A-	7/05/2018	1,500,000	1,504,636	1,510,430	10,430	4.70	Low
Westpac 27/6/14	AA-	27/06/2014	1,000,000	1,049,151	1,054,493	65,000	6.50	Low
Westpac 6/5/14	AA-	6/05/2014	4,000,000	4,011,507	4,025,315	25,315	4.20	Low
NAB 9/3/15	AA-	9/03/2015	2,000,000	2,020,574	2,027,922	27,922	4.47	Low
NAB 12/3/15	AA-	12/03/2015	2,500,000	2,524,712	2,533,979	33,979	4.51	Low
NAB 15/7/13 (Regional Parks)	AA-	15/07/2013	1,300,000	1,307,389	1,312,208	12,208	4.51	Low
Delphi Bank 29/1/15*	A-	29/01/2015	2,000,000	2,007,457	2,007,216	36,563	4.39	Low
Delphi Bank 14/2/14*	A-	14/02/2014	5,000,000	5,102,370	5,131,342	352,500	7.05	Low
Delphi Bank 5/8/15*	A-	5/08/2015	2,000,000	2,244,137	2,255,151	134,000	6.70	Low
Delphi Bank 7/3/14*	A-	7/03/2014	1,500,000	1,524,627	1,533,318	105,750	7.05	Low
Credit Union Australia 11/4/14	BBB+	11/04/2014	1,000,000	1,009,342	1,014,948	68,200	6.82	Low
Credit Union Australia 12/5/14	BBB+	12/05/2014	2,000,000	2,006,667	2,017,780	135,200	6.76	Low
Credit Union Australia 9/5/14	BBB+	9/05/2014	500,000	531,543	533,988	29,750	5.95	Low
Bankwest	AA	27/08/2013	2,000,000	2,092,586	2,102,614	122,000	6.10	Low
Quay Credit Union	NR	9/08/2013	1,000,000	1,117,356	1,122,699	65,000	6.50	Low
Suncorp 11/8/14	A-	11/08/2014	3,000,000	3,151,718	3,167,252	189,000	6.30	Low
Suncorp 23/12/13	A-	23/12/2013	1,000,000	1,046,672	1,000,414	50,400	5.04	Low
Rural Bank	A-	30/10/2013	2,000,000	2,006,751	2,013,984	13,984	4.40	Low
Bank of Queensland 4/9/17	BBB	4/09/2017	2,000,000	2,083,589	2,093,186	93,186	5.65	Low
Bank of Queensland 5/2/18	BBB	5/02/2018	3,000,000	3,049,101	3,062,223	62,223	5.15	Low
Bank of Queensland 5/3/18	BBB	5/03/2018	2,000,000	2,024,312	2,032,975	32,975	5.10	Low
Bank of Queensland 17/5/17	BBB	17/05/2017	1,000,000	1,001,784	1,005,733	5,733	4.65	Low
Rabo Direct 24/3/16	AA	24/03/2016	5,000,000	5,066,603	5,095,986	357,500	7.15	Low
Rabo Direct 10/8/15	AA	10/08/2015	1,000,000	1,053,967	1,059,474	67,000	6.70	Low
Rabo Direct 13/4/15	AA	13/04/2015	1,000,000	1,006,041	1,009,740	9,740	4.50	Low
ING 17/8/17	A	17/08/2017	2,000,000	2,094,513	2,104,393	104,393	6.01	Low
ING 6/9/17	A	6/09/2017	2,000,000	2,081,929	2,091,134	91,134	5.60	Low
ING 7/5/18	A	7/05/2018	1,500,000	1,504,596	1,510,341	10,341	4.66	Low
ING 4/9/13	A	4/09/2013	3,000,000	-	3,008,462	8,462	4.29	Low
Wide Bay 29/7/16	BBB	29/07/2016	1,000,000	1,023,732	1,029,567	71,000	7.10	Low
Wide Bay 8/8/16	BBB	8/08/2016	1,000,000	1,021,786	1,027,622	71,000	7.10	Low
ME Bank 15/5/14	BBB	15/05/2014	2,000,000	2,003,726	2,010,712	10,712	4.25	Low
ME Bank 2/9/13	BBB	2/09/2013	2,000,000	-	2,006,597	6,597	4.30	Low
ME Bank 2/6/14	BBB	2/06/2014	2,000,000	-	2,005,984	5,984	4.20	Low
Police Credit Union 26/2/15	NR	26/02/2015	1,000,000	1,011,924	1,015,729	15,729	4.63	Low
Police Credit Union 17/5/16	NR	17/05/2016	500,000	500,865	502,718	2,718	4.51	Low
Bank of Sydney	NR	9/07/2013	3,100,000	3,119,492	3,130,958	30,958	4.50	Low
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	A-	16/04/2014	2,800,000	2,814,844	2,824,740	24,740	4.30	Low
CBA 16/5/16	AA-	16/05/2016	1,000,000	1,002,096	1,005,795	5,795	4.50	Low
CBA 17/5/16	AA-	17/05/2016	1,000,000	1,001,973	1,005,671	5,671	4.50	Low
CBA 23/5/16	AA-	23/05/2016	1,000,000	1,001,247	1,004,986	4,986	4.55	Low
CBA 30/5/16	AA-	30/05/2016	1,000,000	1,001,247	1,004,986	4,986	4.55	Low
CBA 6/6/16	AA-	6/06/2016	1,000,000	1,001,247	1,004,986	4,986	4.55	Low
CBA 29/10/17	AA-	29/10/2017	5,001,064	2,779,070	2,797,538	144,723	3.03	Low
Total			107,501,064	100,321,745	107,652,497	4,266,138		

Attachment							
Credit Rating at 30/6/13	Legal Maturity	Acquisition Price \$	Market Value as at 1/6/13 \$	Market Value as at 30/6/13 \$	Income Earned (net of fees) Financial Yr to Date \$	Annualised Monthly Return (Managed Funds) / Current Coupon	Risk of capital not being returned
Floating Rate Notes:							
Fair Value through Profit & Loss Accounting - movements through profits & loss.							
Credit Suisse	A+	18/03/2014	501,745	506,490	502,370	28,560	4.00 Low
Bank of Queensland 7/12/15	BBB	7/12/2015	5,034,450	5,091,550	5,048,200	160,951	4.40 Low
Bank of Queensland 30/5/16	BBB	30/05/2016	3,000,000	3,000,270	3,011,250	11,250	4.30 Low
CBA	AA	24/12/2015	15,281,689	13,406,480	15,376,000	652,274	4.09 Low
Macquarie Bank 9/3/17	A	9/03/2017	5,000,000	5,296,130	5,270,880	581,122	5.67 Low
Macquarie Bank 24/2/14	A	24/02/2014	1,001,180	1,006,210	1,014,040	60,895	4.86 Low
Arab	A-	12/12/2014	5,000,000	5,018,985	5,017,000	131,556	4.28 Low
Suncorp	A-	11/04/2016	2,250,000	2,261,025	2,255,468	5,467	4.07 Low
Royal Bank of Scotland^	BBB-	17/02/2017	2,501,100	2,227,725	2,235,700	405,268	3.20 Low
Total			39,570,164	37,814,865	39,730,908	2,037,343	
CPPI Notes (Constant Portfolio Protection Insurance)							
Available for Sale Accounting - movements through equity.							
Keolis # (now ZCB)	BBB-	24/08/2013	1,000,000	993,300	995,300	28,700	0.00 Low
Sub Total			1,000,000	993,300	995,300	28,700	
Fair Value through Profit & Loss Accounting - movements through profits & loss.							
Lehman #	D	15/06/2009	300,000	-	-	-	0.00 High
Lehman #^	D	15/06/2009	500,000	-	-	42,722	0.00 High
Sub Total			800,000	-	-	42,722	
Total			1,800,000	993,300	995,300	71,422	

Attachment

Credit Rating at 30/6/13	Legal Maturity	Acquisition Price \$	Market Value as at 1/6/13 \$	Market Value as at 30/6/13 \$	Income Earned (net of fees) Financial Yr to Date \$	Annualised Monthly Return (Managed Funds) / Current Coupon	Risk of capital not being returned
Floating Rate Term Deposits:							
Westpac	9/09/2013	2,000,000	2,017,536	2,003,902	61,356	3.56	Low
Bank of Queensland	26/02/2016	1,500,000	1,500,708	1,506,198	22,768	4.31	Low
ING	27/02/2015	2,000,000	2,000,694	2,007,631	28,942	4.22	Low
NAB Flexi Deposit	16/08/2013	2,000,000	2,003,115	2,009,345	85,238	3.79	Low
Total		7,500,000	7,522,054	7,527,076	198,304		
Fixed Coupon Bonds							
Heritage Bank	20/06/2017	6,718,110	6,871,800	6,825,000	257,029	7.25	Low
RBS	27/08/2013	1,004,200	1,027,964	1,030,506	57,246	7.25	Low
Total		7,722,310	7,899,764	7,855,506	314,275		
Floating Rate Transferrable Certificate of Deposit							
Greater Building Society	15/04/2016	2,000,000	2,013,116	2,019,640	19,391	4.54	Low
Total		2,000,000	2,013,116	2,019,640	19,391		
Other:							
Southern Phone Company Shares	N/A		2	2	48,930	N/A	Low
			2	2	48,930		
Securities No Longer Held (excluding Managed Funds).							
Accumulated at May 2013					6,621,598		
Bank of Sydney TD	24/06/2013	2,000,000	2,002,273	-	8,336	4.61	Low
Averon # (now ZCB) CPPI	20/06/2013	1,500,000	1,487,400	-	99,390	0.00	Low
Queenslanders CU FRN	3/06/2013	503,170	500,007	-	45,913	4.08	Low
Total		4,003,170	3,989,680	-	6,775,237		
GRAND TOTAL (before fees)			173,518,624	169,642,436	14,073,741		
Less Portfolio Fees (Advice & Salary)					(162,672)		
GRAND TOTAL			173,518,624	169,642,436	13,911,069		

Capital Guaranteed at maturity

* Ex Infrastructure IMP

* Rated by Fitch

The dates quoted alongside the name of the product for FRN's, CDO's and Fixed Bonds are first call dates.

First call dates for FRN's & fixed bonds are the likely date of maturity because the investment issuer is severely penalised if monies are not redeemed by that date, via damage in the market to their reputation, increased coupon rates and additional capital requirements by APRA.

Term deposits of \$250,000 or less per financial institution are covered under the Commonwealth Government Deposit Guarantee Scheme & therefore by default have the same credit rating as the Commonwealth Government i.e. AAA.

Less Unrealised Capital Gains/(Loss) for Available For Sale Investments
Income to Profit & Loss

\$ 87,095
\$ 13,823,974

TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

\$ 169,642,436

LESS ESTIMATED RESTRICTED EQUITY FOR WATER & SEWER FUNDS

Water Fund \$ 37,327,068
Sewer Fund \$ 59,282,189 \$ 96,609,257

GENERAL FUND CASH & INVESTMENTS

\$ 73,033,179

LESS TRUST FUND BALANCES AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

\$ 1,466,074

LESS ESTIMATED RESTRICTED EQUITY FOR GENERAL FUND (developer contributions, grants, reserves etc).

\$ 69,396,031

ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND UNRESTRICTED CASH & INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

Add: Unrestricted Cash & Investments as at 30 June 2012 \$ 2,169,818
2012/13 Budget Deficit (Budget Review - 31/5/13 - for adoption 25/7/13) \$ 1,256
Estimated Unrestricted Cash as at 30 June 2013 \$ 2,171,074

I hereby certify that Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.


Responsible Accounting Officer.

MONTHLY INTERIM BUDGET REVIEW FOR JUNE 2013

Purpose:

To report on the estimated interim budget position as at 30 June 2013.

Description of Item:

Estimated Interim Budget Position as at 30 June 2013:

	General Account \$	Water Account \$	Sewer Account \$
Original Budget adopted 24 May 2012	308,365 (D)	4,397,830 (D)	3,542,337 (D)
Approved Variations to 31 May 2013	(309,621) (S)	(554,150) (S)	(686,556) (S)
Recommended variations for June 2013	Nil	Nil	Nil
Estimated interim result as at 30 June 2013	<u>(1,256) (S)</u>	<u>3,843,680 (D)</u>	<u>2,855,781 (D)</u>

General Account

Deficit/(Surplus)

Sundry Governance and office expenses surplus to anticipated spending	(15,000) (S)
Councillors discretionary funds unspent from previous years	(3,427) (S)
Land Use Assessment and Management staff costs savings due to ongoing vacancies	(115,000) (S)
Land Use Assessment and Management office expenses surplus to anticipated spending	(8,000) (S)
Building certificates income in excess of revised budgets	(30,000) (S)
Property and Commercial Services staff costs surplus due to extended staff leave and position not backfilled	(25,000) (S)
State park administration income not previously budgetted now brought to account	(16,000) (S)
Savings in insurance costs including lower premiums than anticipated and less excess payments due to fewer claims for public risk	(65,000) (S)
Rural fire services vehicle running costs substantially lower than last year due to cracked chassis issues across the fleet addressed in prior years	(40,000) (S)
Rural fire stations across the LGA incurring substantially lower working expenses than in previous years as backlog of maintenance issues completed earlier than anticipated	(30,000) (S)
Finance staff costs savings due to ongoing backfilling and reduced staff hours	(50,000) (S)
City Services office expenses surplus funds	(20,000) (S)
Library staff costs savings	(20,000) (S)
Jetty Theatre net operating costs revision in line with improved work practices as outlined in their Business Plan adopted by Council 11/7/13 (CS13/33)	(120,000) (S)

Councils matching funding for Roads and Maritime Services PAMP projects unspent as no projects allocated by RMS in 12/13	(25,000) (S)
Survey and Design staff costs surpluses due to reduced working hours and staff time charged to project work over the course of the year	(40,000) (S)
Bus Shelters Major Repairs allocation unspent, further funds available in 13/14 budget allocations to cover future years demand	(10,000) (S)
Drainage investigations allocation unspent, these costs been met within the flood mitigation program of works	(12,000) (S)
Contracts and Subdivision staff costs surpluses due to substantial staff time charged to project work over the course of the year	(44,000) (S)
Transfer of one-off savings to Legal Expenses Contingency	522,305 (D)
Transfer of one-off savings for revote to offset less than expected Financial Assistance Grant revenue per Local Government Grants Commission preliminary recommendation received 5 July 2013	166,122 (D)
Sale of Land at Coramba in excess of that anticipated	(64,018) (S)
Property rental income in excess of anticipated	(65,000) (S)
Transfer to Asset Building Maintenance Reserve for contingency for possible rental deficit due to Rigby House tenant vacating	129,018 (D)
Total	Nil
Water Account	
Total	<u>Nil</u>
Sewer Account	
Total	<u>Nil</u>

Sustainability Assessment:

- **Environment**

There are no perceived short or long-term environmental impacts.

- **Social**

There are no perceived short or long term social impacts.

- **Civic Leadership**

Council strives to reach a balanced budget position by June 30 each year in conjunction with meeting its short term priorities.

- **Economic**

Broader Economic Implications

When dealing with increased community demands Council has to focus on the balance of providing services with the limited funds available. Council must also ensure that a healthy financial position is maintained to ensure ongoing viability of the organisation.

Delivery Program/Operational Plan Implications

The Original budget for the General Account adopted on the 24 May 2012 provided for a deficit of \$308,365.

For substantial budget adjustments the associated council reports have addressed the triple bottom line factors independently in 2012/13.

Consultation:

Managers and their relevant staff have been provided with electronic budget reports for each program on a monthly basis. Requested variations and variations adopted by Council have been included in the report.

Related Policy and / or Precedents:

The Director of Corporate Business has provided guidelines to staff regarding their responsibilities relating to effective and transparent budget review and assessment processes. This framework provides guidance in achieving the objective of a year end balanced budget in the General Fund.

Statutory Requirements:

Under local government regulations Council is required to submit a quarterly budget review to Council. Therefore Council is under no obligation to provide monthly reviews but has recommended they be completed as part of prudent financial management.

The Responsible Accounting Officer believes this report indicates the financial position of the Council is satisfactory, having regard to the original estimate of Income and Expenditure.

Issues:

Currently any major budget issues are collated and addressed on a monthly basis via a separate report to the Corporate Development Team.

Implementation Date / Priority:

Management will continue to monitor the organisation's performance with a view to improving service delivery.

Recommendation:

That the budget adjustments be approved and the current budget position be noted.

Estimated Interim Budget Position as at 30 June 2013:

	General Account \$	Water Account \$	Sewer Account \$
Original Budget adopted 24 May 2012	308,365 (D)	4,397,830 (D)	3,542,337 (D)
Approved Variations to 31 May 2013	(309,621) (S)	(554,150) (S)	(686,556) (S)
Recommended variations for June 2013	Nil	Nil	Nil
Estimated interim result as at 30 June 2013	<u>(1,256) (S)</u>	<u>3,843,680 (D)</u>	<u>2,855,781 (D)</u>

LEASE: AIRSIDE FUEL BOWSER SITE, LOT 10 DP790102 - EXECUTION OF LEASE DOCUMENTS UNDER COMMON SEAL OF COUNCIL

Purpose:

Seeking authority for the execution of a lease between Coffs Harbour City Council as the registered proprietor of Lot 10 in DP 790102 to Arcav Pty Limited ACN 096 269 251 under the Common Seal of Council.

Description of Item:

Council is the owner of Lot 10 in DP 790102

The property has previously been leased to Arcav Pty Limited ACN 096 269 251 (the Lessee) under a lease which expired on 30 June 2013 and is now continuing on a month to month basis.

The Lessee has requested a renewal of the lease for a further period of 5 years.

Arcav Pty Limited has been a good lessee with all rents paid on time. The proposed rent for the new lease has been set against a market rent assessment for similar leasehold.

Accordingly there is no objection to granting a new lease term.

It is recommended that a new 5 (five) year lease agreement on largely the same terms as the current lease be pursued.

Sustainability Assessment:

- **Environment**

This lease proposal relates to an existing fuel bowser site, which has been occupied and used for aviation related purposes for many years. The leasing proposal will continue this use. As such there will be no change to the environmental impact. It is proposed that the environmental conditions in the previous lease be included in any future agreement.

- **Social**

This lease proposal will continue an existing use of the subject premises and as such there is no perceived change in regard to social sustainability and impact. Having the land occupied and maintained for aviation purposes creates a positive image for the airport precinct, and is far better than rendering the land vacant and unproductive.

- **Civic Leadership**

The Coffs Harbour 2011-2015 delivery program objective is to (OC1.1.6.2) pursue corporate business opportunities to generate income to support Council programs. The proposed lease is consistent with this objective.

- **Economic**

Broader Economic Implications

Leasing the premises to Arcav Pty Limited ACN 096 269 251 will continue to support the local economy and the aviation industry within the City.

Delivery Program/Operational Plan Implications

Leasing the premises to Arcav Pty Limited ACN 096 269 251 at a current market rental will provide additional income for Council. If the site remains vacant then there are still holding costs for Council (rates, insurance, security services, maintenance and repair, etc).

Consultation:

Executive Manager Business Units, Corporate Business and the Manager Coffs Harbour Regional Airport.

Related Policy and / or Precedents:

The recommendations are in line with general leasing practices.

Where excess Council property is not required for current use for Council purposes, then numerous precedents have been set for leasing such premises or properties in order to obtain additional income and help to cover holding costs.

Statutory Requirements:

The property is classified as Operational Land in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1993. Therefore, there are no impediments to pursuing this lease arrangement in accordance with normal leasing procedures and practices under the NSW Real Property Act 1900 and the Conveyancing Act 1919.

Regulation 400(2) Local Government (General) regulation 2005 applies with respect to execution of the lease documentation under Council seal.

Issues:

The proposed lease represents the continuation of an existing and satisfactory arrangement with the current tenant and does not present any additional matters of concern.

Implementation Date / Priority:

The lease document will be executed under seal following completion of drafting by Council solicitor and subject to authority being granted by Council.

Recommendation:

1. **The Council as registered proprietor Lot 10 in DP790102 (the demised premises) authorises the lease of the demised premises to Arcav Pty Limited ACN 096 269 251 for a period of 5 (five) years and subject to the standard terms and conditions of Coffs Harbour City Councils airport leases.**
2. **That any necessary documents required to give effect to the lease of Lot 10 in DP790102 to Arcav Pty Limited ACN 096 269 251 be executed under the common seal of Council.**

CONTRACT NO. RFT-600-TO: CASTLE STREET CAR PARK SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF LIFTS

Purpose:

To report on tenders received for Contract No. RFT-600-TO Castle Street Car Park supply and installation of lifts and to gain Council approval to accept a tender.

Description of Item:

Open tenders were called for a Lump Sum contract in capital city newspapers and via Council's electronic Tenderlink portal. The deadline for submission of tenders was 3:30pm on Tuesday 30 November 2013.

Council at its meeting of 11 July 2013 resolved that;

Council allocate \$1.25 million from funds held in reserve from the sale of 218 Harbour Drive for projects relating to car parking projects in the CBD to the Castle Street Car Park Lift and Shade Structures project.

The works comprise the supply, delivery and installation at Castle Street Car Park of two Lift Cars - Duplex Configuration including the provision of a maintenance agreement (minimum 12 months). The contract is for the supply and installation of the lift cars only. The lift shaft and associated works will be undertaken through direct project management.

Tenders were evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Tender conformity.
2. Present value of whole of life cost (Tender Price and Operation and maintenance costs over the expected life of the asset.)
3. Delivery Time
4. Features and performance of the plant & equipment.
5. Tenderer's experience & record of performance

Three tenders were received. All were conforming offers.

- a) Elevator Services Group Pty Ltd, Chatswood.
- b) Kone Elevators Pty Ltd, Warners Bay.
- c) Schindler Lifts Australia, Botany.

Sustainability Assessment:

- **Environment**

Detailed design and works specification will include assessment and review of environmental impacts.

- **Social**

The proposed lift will provide improved access for people with disabilities, parents with

prams, older people with walking frames and the general public to all levels of the car park.

- **Civic Leadership**

The project will address matters outlined clearly in the Looking After of Communities Theme and the Moving Around Theme of the Coffs Harbour 2030 Community Plan.

- **Economic**

Broader Economic Implications

The works are part of the City Centre Master Plan.

Delivery program/Operational Plan Implications

Tenders are within budget estimates prepared for the Castle Street Car Park lift and shade structures project.

Consultation:

The works are part of the City Centre Master Plan.

Related Policy and / or Precedents:

Tender procedures and analysis were carried out in accordance with Council policy, in particular the 'Tender Value Selection System'.

Council's policy is that the tender with the highest weighted score becomes the recommended tender.

Statutory Requirements:

The calling, receiving and reviewing of tenders was carried out in accordance with Part 7 Tendering of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005. Regulation 171 allows for a shortened tender if;

- (1) A council that believes there are exceptional circumstances rendering inappropriate a deadline that would, but for this clause, be required to be specified in an advertisement under clause 167, 168 or 169 or an invitation under clause 168 (4) or 169 (6) may decide on an earlier deadline. However, the earlier deadline must be a specified time on a date that is at least 7 days after:
 - (a) the date of the publication or first publication of the advertisement, or
 - (b) the date of the invitation.
- (2) A council must keep a record of:
 - (a) the circumstances requiring an earlier deadline to be specified in such an advertisement or invitation, and
 - (b) the name of the staff member who made the decision to change the deadline (if not made by the council).

Tender (Contract No. RFT-600-TO) was available on Tenderlink on 19th July 2013 and advertised in SMH on Tuesday 23rd July 2013. Tenders Closed Tuesday 30th July 2013.

Council funding allocated to the project has been determined based on quotations and QS estimates prepared by CPG (Gowings) on behalf of the Coffs Harbour City Council City Centre Master Plan Committee.

CPG advise that limited suppliers are available in Australia and that four suppliers had been approached by CPG to provide competitive offers in relation to the project. Three of the suppliers had entered into detailed discussion with CPG and provided cost estimates which are dependent on, as near as practicable, immediate placement of orders. As most prospective suppliers were familiar with the project and shortened tender period would not compromise their ability to provide competitive offers, it was determined that a seven day deadline was warranted.

This determination was based on in principal agreement to the shortened tender period by the CBD Master Plan committee and the General Manager at the City Centre Master Plan meeting of 4th July 2013.

Implementation Date / Priority:

A contract can be awarded upon Council's resolution to accept a tender. Delivery time for the contract is 21 calendar weeks.

Recommendation:

That Council considers tenders received for Contract No. RFT-600-TO Castle Street Car Park supply and installation of lifts - and move the motion as detailed in the confidential attachment.