

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Council seeks community help to halt dangerous trespassing at Agnes**

Gladstone Regional Council seeks the assistance of the Agnes Water and Seventeen Seventy communities to help address dangerous driving and anti-social behaviour happening at its Agnes Waste Water Treatment Plant site.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the Yabby Road site had been subject to frequent trespassing recently, and asked residents to notify police and Council if they had any information or had seen anything suspicious.

“Council staff using the track leading to the plant have, on several occasions, come close to experiencing head-on collisions with others on the track who are unauthorised to be there,” Councillor Burnett said.

“Council has locked gates, bollards and appropriate signage in place at all entry points to Yabby Road to denote that the area is private property and to dissuade others from entering.

“However, members of the public have been accessing the property on motorbikes and in other vehicles after pushing down trees to circumvent the bollards.

“The last thing we want is for someone to suffer injury or worse because of an accident resulting from people being on the site without permission.”

Cr Burnett said it was likely that the track, which extends from Streeter Drive, was being used by some trespassers to travel to Baffle Creek but added others had visited the site for more destructive purposes.

“In total, vandalism and theft at the waste water treatment plant’s irrigation lot and buildings, and the efforts to mitigate it, has cost ratepayers,” he said.

“This is money that could be put to better use for the community elsewhere, which is why Council is calling for assistance in helping to identify the perpetrators.

“Agnes Water police have been informed of all incidents at the site and Council is hopeful that those who are committing these transgressions will be identified and receive the appropriate penalty.”

Anyone with information about illegal activity at the site is encouraged to phone Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000, Agnes Water Police Station 4974 9708 or Gladstone Regional Council 4970 0700.

Incidents can also be reported via Council’s Online Services which can be accessed at its website at <http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au>