



ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE



A G E N D A

24 January 2017

Commencing immediately after the Finance and Corporate Governance Committee Meeting

**Held at the Council Chambers - Civic Centre,
101 Goondoon Street, Gladstone**

Please note: These minutes are to be read in conjunction with the preceding General Meeting Minutes.

Terms of Reference

Committee is primarily responsible for overseeing policy and performance in the following areas of Council operation:-

- Environment
- Conservation Management
- Pest Management
- Library Services
- Arts and Heritage (Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum)
- Community Advisory Service (community development, human and social services)
- Local Law Enforcement
- Open Space Planning
- Parks Development and Maintenance
- Sport and Recreation.

Committee members are all Councillors.

By virtue of section 12(3)(g) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Mayor is a (ex-officio) member of the committee.

Cr Bush be appointed as Chair of the committee.

A quorum be a simple majority of members.

The Committee meet in the first instance of the fourth Tuesday of each month commencing immediately after the Finance and Corporate Governance Committee Meeting in the Council Chambers and the committee be authorised to determine its future meeting times and frequency.

Committee Administrator is the Director Planning and Environment.

Appointment of Committees

Section 264 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as follows:-

- (1) A local government may -
 - (a) appoint, from its councillors, standing committees or special committees;
and
 - (b) appoint advisory committees.
- (2) Two or more local governments may appoint, from their councillors, a joint standing committee.

Closed Meetings

Section 275 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as follows:-

- (1) A local government or committee may resolve that a meeting be closed to the public if its councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss -
 - (a) the appointment, dismissal or discipline of employees; or
 - (b) industrial matters affecting employees; or
 - (c) the local government's budget; or
 - (d) rating concessions; or
 - (e) contracts proposed to be made by it; or
 - (f) starting or defending legal proceedings involving the local government; or
 - (g) any action to be taken by the local government under the Planning Act, including deciding applications made to it under that Act; or
 - (h) other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

Committee Members

Cr Bush - Chair

Mayor Burnett

Cr Churchill

Cr Goodluck

Cr Hansen

Cr Masters

Cr O'Grady

Cr Sobhanian

Cr Trevor

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ECSC/1. OPENING AND APOLOGIES

ECSC/2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

ECSC/3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ECSC/3.1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FOR ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE 22 NOVEMBER 2016

Responsible Officer: Director Planning and Environment

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2017

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

Confirmation of the minutes of the Environment and Community Services Committee held on 22 November 2016.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Environment and Community Services Committee of Council held on 22 November 2016 be confirmed.

Attachments:

1. Minutes of the Environment and Community Services Committee of Council held on 22 November 2016.

Tabled Items:

1. Nil.

Report Prepared by: PA Director Planning and Environment

ECSC/4. DEPUTATIONS

Nil

ECSC/5. OFFICERS' REPORTS

ECSC/5.1. GREAN MINUTES - 24 NOVEMBER 2016

Responsible Officer: Director Planning and Environment

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2016

File Ref: EM17.8

Purpose:

This report provides a copy of the minutes (confirmed and unconfirmed) from the previous two Gladstone Region Environment Advisory Network (GREAN) meetings since Council's adoption of its new Terms of Reference.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Gladstone Region Environment Advisory Network (GREAN) minutes from 28 July 2016 and 24 November 2016 be received.

Background:

Council adopted GREAN's new Terms of Reference on 5 July 2016. Accordingly, minutes of the subsequent GREAN meetings are to be presented to Council.

Consideration:

Nil.

Communication and Consultation (Internal/External):

Nil

Legal Environmental and Policy Implications:

Nil.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil.

Commentary:

Nil.

Summary:

Nil.

Attachments:

1. GREAN minutes – 28 July 2016
2. GREAN minutes (unconfirmed) – 24 November 2016
3. GREAN terms of reference

Tabled Items:

Nil.

Report Prepared by: Administration Supervisor

ECSC/5.2. WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 2016

Responsible Officer: Director Planning and Environment

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2016

File Ref: CM6.1

Purpose:

This report outlines a synopsis of the Women in Local Government Excellence Conference attended by the Manager Regulatory Services in November 2016.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council receive the Conference Attendance Report for the Women in Local Government Excellence Conference as presented.

Background:

As per Gladstone Regional Councils Learning and Development Corporate Standard, employees who attend a conference are required to deliver a brief synopsis of the conference they attended to the relevant Committee Meeting.

This report outlines the conference synopsis, key learnings from six sessions attended, one thing that will be used as a result of these learnings, one thing the organisation could use to improve its operations and the costs associated with attending the conference.

Consideration:

Nil

Communication and Consultation (Internal/External):

Nil.

Legal Environmental and Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil

Commentary:

Nil

Summary:

Nil

Attachments:

1. Conference Attendance Report – Women in Local Government Excellence Conference

Tabled Items:

Nil.

Report Prepared by: Acting Director Planning and Environment

ECSC/5.3. REGULATORY SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2016

Responsible Officer: Director Planning and Environment

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2017

File Ref: CM19.2

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the status of the 2016/2017 Regulatory Services Division's budget and operational matters of interest.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Regulatory Services Division Quarterly Report for October to December 2016 be received.

Background:

The information contained in this report is provided as a quarterly information report on the operations and progress of the Regulatory Services Division. The information presented builds on data collected in previous months and is intended to show a snapshot of the current financial year's operations.

Generally, these reports are presented in July, October, January and April of each year.

At the time of preparing this report, 51.23% of the current financial year has passed and as such, financials have been extracted from Council's official finance database for this time period.

Consideration:

The Regulatory Services Division collects a significant amount of data on its operations and commentary below highlights a few of these areas. The information provided is generally chosen at officers discretion, however Councillors are encouraged to nominate or request data for any interested topics for inclusion in future quarterly reports.

Communication and Consultation (Internal/External):

Communication has occurred internally with relevant staff on the information provided to verify its accuracy and relevance.

Legal Environmental and Policy Implications:

The Regulatory Services Division is continuing with finalising proposed changes to Council's Local Laws. Specifically changes encompass three parts, being:

- Part 1 – Changes to operation of caravan parks, commercial activities and advertising devices
- Part 2 – Changes to animal management, local pest declarations and prohibitions / restrictions for local government controlled areas, facilities and roads.
- Part 3 – Changes to animal management laws relating to breeding approvals for cats.

Since the first quarterly report, Council has:

- Adopted Part 1 changes on 6 December 2016 with these changes commencing on 16 December 2016 and currently being implemented; and
- Released Part 2 changes for public consultation in November/December, with a report to be submitted to Council early in 2017.

All proposed changes to Council's Local Laws have followed the local law making process as required under the *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld).

Financial and Resource Implications:

Image 1 provides a snapshot overview of the financial report to the end of December 2016.

TOTAL Management Stream - M.ER Regulatory Services					
Description	Actual \$	Revised Budget \$	% of Revised Budget	Original Budget \$	% of Original Budget
Trading Summary					
Total Ordinary Income	473,431	1,114,000	42.5%	1,114,000	42.5%
Total Ordinary Expenses	(2,026,930)	(5,330,350)	38.0%	(5,330,350)	38.0%
Total Depreciation Expenses	(20,179)	(51,321)	39.3%	(48,429)	41.7%
Net Operating Income(Deficit)	(1,573,678)	(4,267,671)	36.9%	(4,264,778)	36.9%
Capital Expenditure/Loans					
Total Capital Income	-	-	-	-	-
Total Capital Purchases	(6,768)	(95,000)	7.1%	(240,000)	2.8%
Total Loan Proceeds	-	-	-	-	-
Total Loan Payments	-	-	-	-	-
Total Capital Expenditure/Loans	(6,768)	(95,000)	7.1%	(240,000)	2.8%
Reserve Movement					
Total Transfer to Reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfer from Reserve	68,397	252,041	27.1%	252,041	27.1%
Total Reserve Movement	68,397	252,041	27.1%	252,041	27.1%
Net Income(Expenditure)	(1,512,049)	(4,110,630)	36.8%	(4,252,737)	35.6%

Image 1: Regulatory Services Division Financial Report to December 2016

Income:- is tracking below estimates with 42.5% of the revised budget received. It is anticipated that with animal registration follow up and Environmental Health Licensing renewal fees yet to be issued that the income will improve over the remainder of the financial year.

Expenses:- are tracking below estimates with 38% of the revised budget spent. The Regulatory Services Division has achieved savings through receiving funding for Pest Management extension activities; reducing annual membership with Capricorn Pest Management Group; staff vacancies in the Pest Management Section; and reducing printing and photocopying charges (paperless office). Expenses will continue to be monitored and adjustments made closer to the end of the financial year.

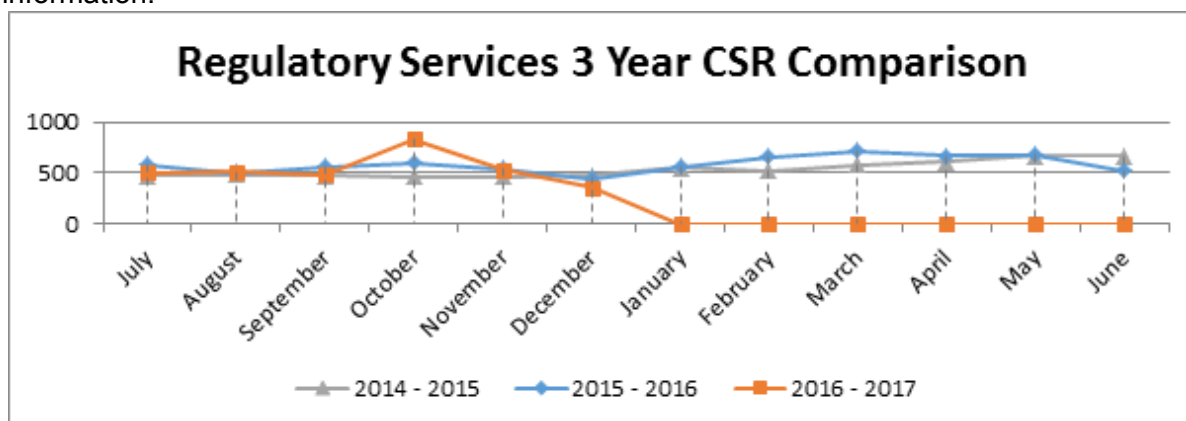
Capital:- is under budget estimates with 7.1% of the revised budget spent for the financial year. Capital projects are continuing to be implemented, with a summary of each provided below.

- Cats Claw Nursery Calliope - The majority of the construction of the Cats Claw Nursery at Calliope Depot is now complete with outstanding actions related to construction and installation of benches (funding received from Gladstone Area Water Board to complete) and installation of irrigation. Anticipated project completion date is 30 February 2017.
- Cats Claw Nursery Miriam Vale – Building approvals have been granted for construction at the Miriam Vale Depot and a local contractor has been awarded construction works. Construction work commenced 12 January 2017, with an expected project completion date of 31 March 2017.
- Pound Incinerator Decommissioning - Contract for works was awarded last year to a local contractor. Works for decommissioning are planned to begin by end of January 2017, and completed by end of February 2017.
- K9 Kube for Local Law Vehicles - Quotes have been sourced and contract awarded. Construction has commenced and now awaiting delivery of items.

Commentary:

Customer Service Requests

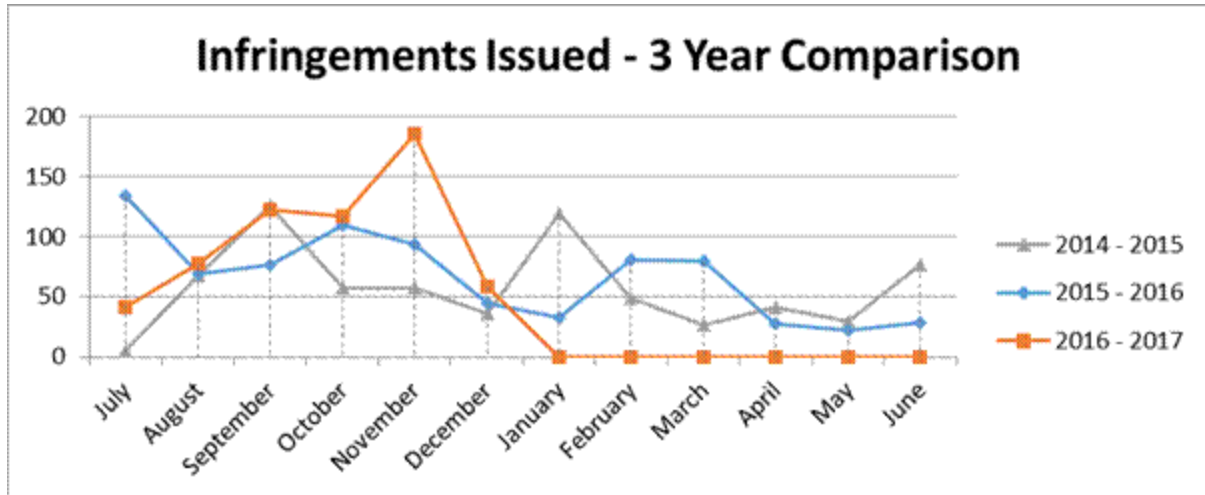
Monthly total Customer Service Requests (CSRs) lodged for the Division to the end of December 2016 is summarised in Graph 1. Monthly totals on average show a slightly decreased trend compared to the previous two financial years. It is believed that this decrease is attributed to the availability of information online and upon contact with Council officers. October 2016 shows a significant increase in CSRs lodged and is attributed to the new online CSR's for cancelling an animal registration or updating microchipping/desexing information.



Graph 1: Regulatory Services 3 year CSR Comparison

Infringements

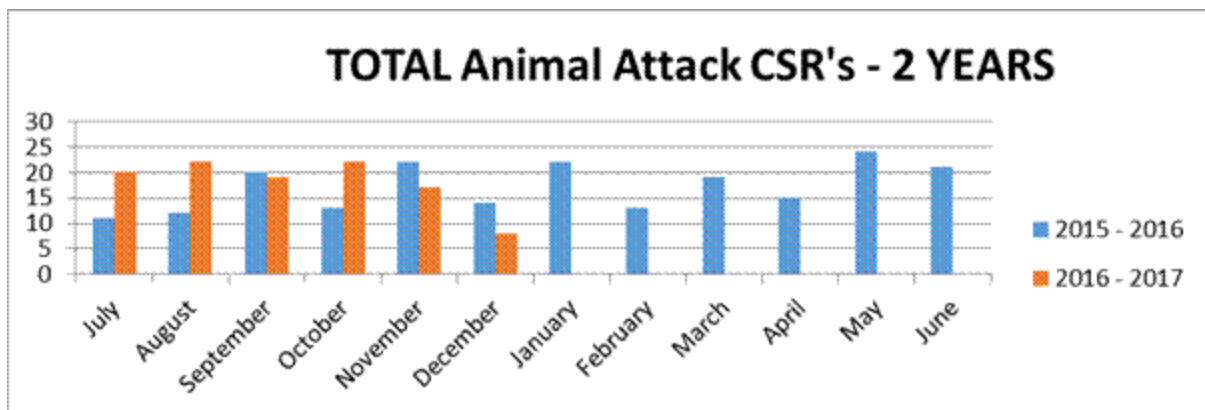
Infringement notices continue to be issued for offences under relevant laws. Graph 2 shows an increase in total number of infringement notices issued for this quarter compared to previous years, and is attributed to the employment of a Parking Compliance Officer and the subsequent issuing of parking infringements.



Graph 2: Regulatory Services Total Infringements Issued

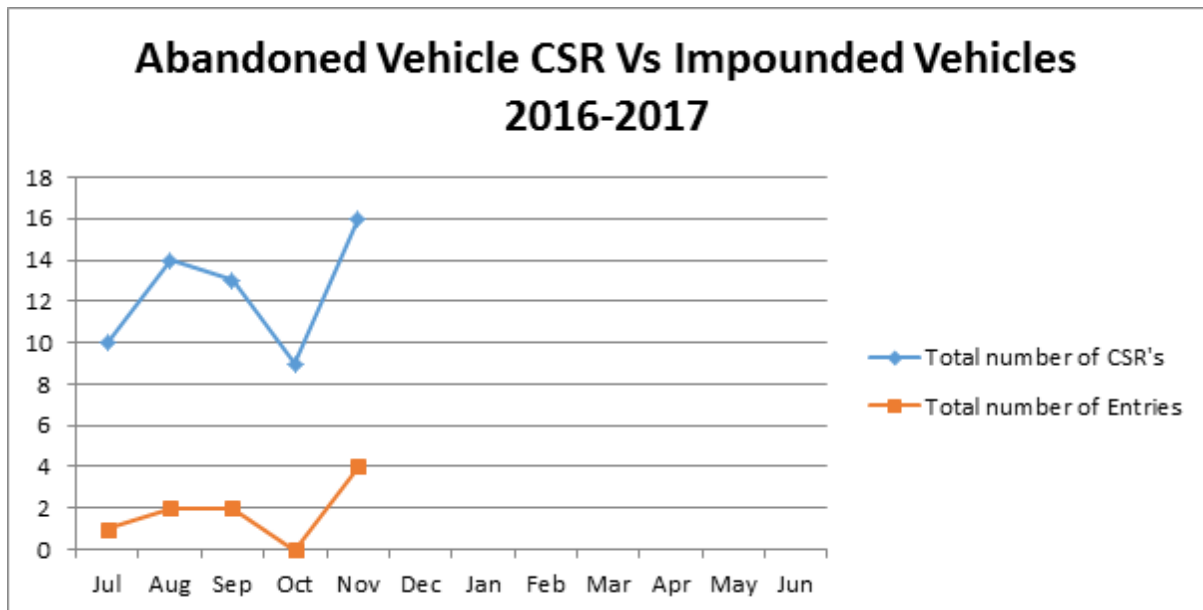
Local Laws

Graph 3 summarises the number of CSRs received for animal attack complaints. It shows an increase in CSRs lodged over the previous financial year to October 2016, however since October 2016 a steady decline has been observed.



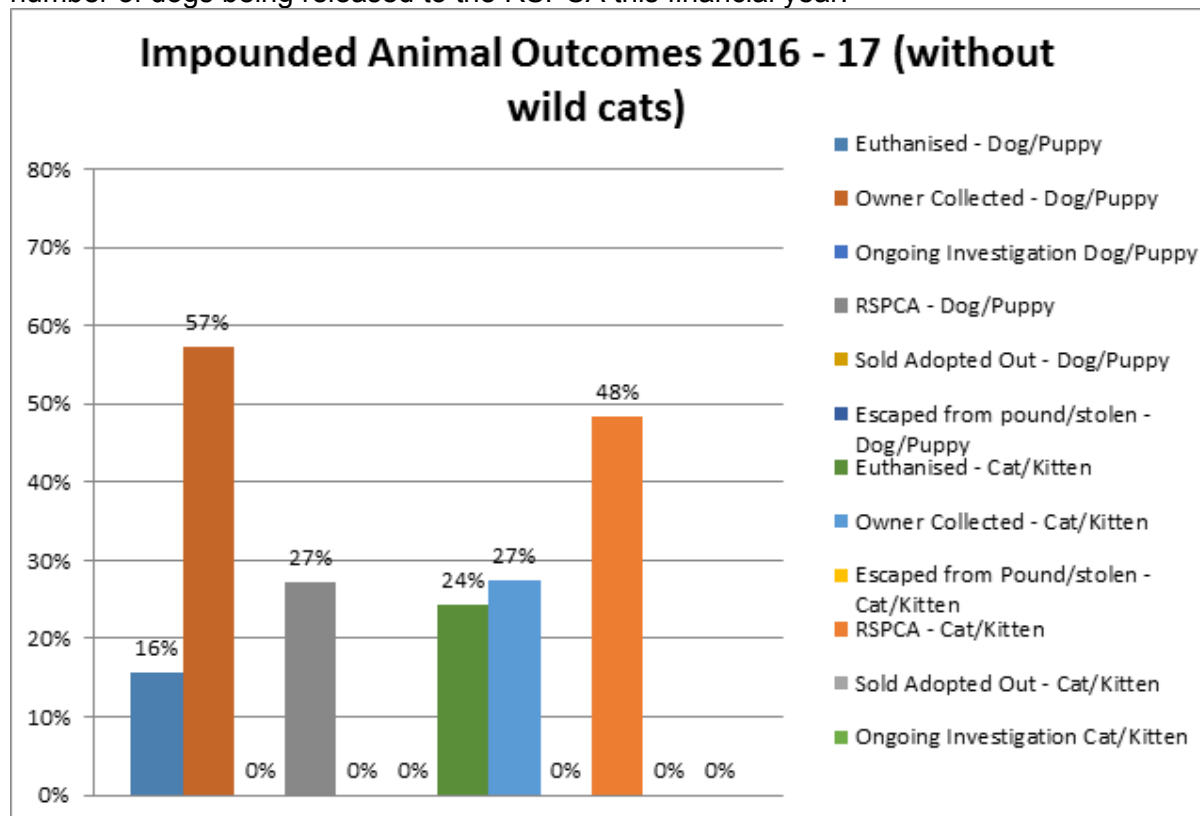
Graph 3: Total Number of Animal Attack CSRs

Graph 4 summarises the number of CSRs received for abandoned vehicles compared to those vehicles that are impounded. Trends show that majority of vehicles are moved off public property prior to being impounded by Council.

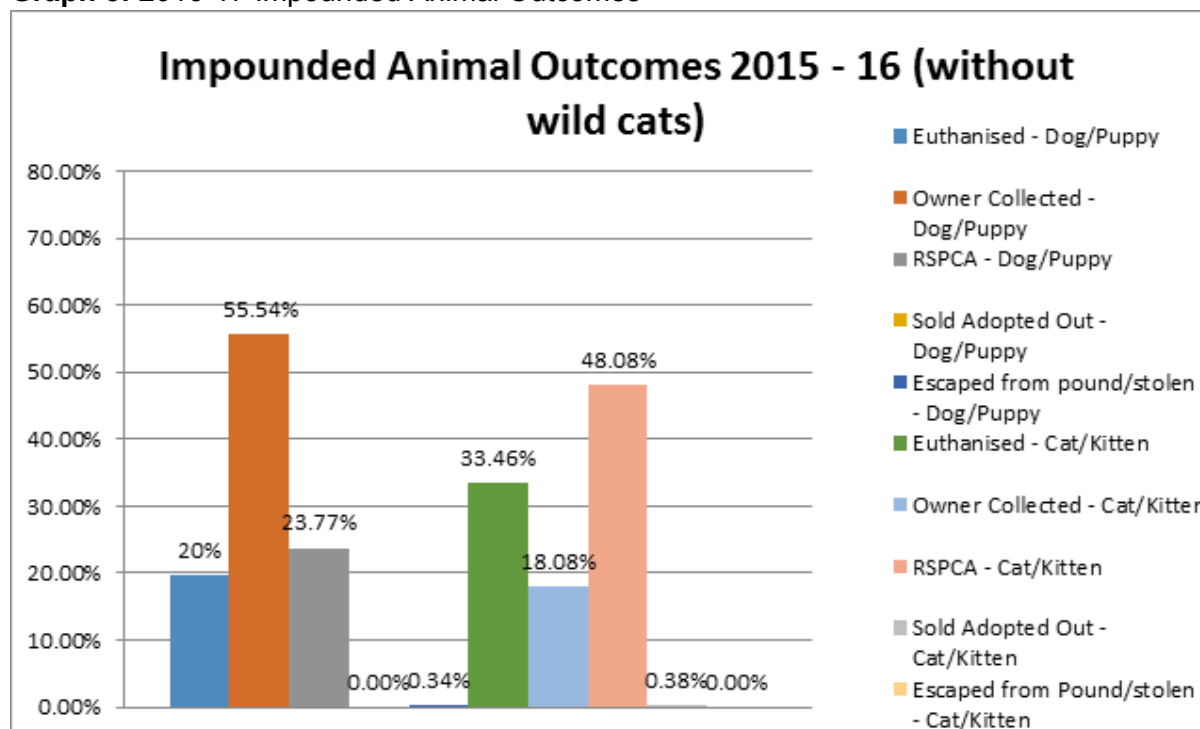


Graph 4: Number of Abandoned Vehicle CSRs Vs Number of Vehicles Impounded

Graph 5 summarises the outcomes for impounded animals this financial year to date. The graph shows 57% of impounded dogs have been released to the owner, whereas 48% of cats are released to the RSPCA. Compared to **Graph 6** for 2015-16, this financial year has seen an increase in the number of dogs being released to the owner, and cats being released to the RSPCA. Furthermore, the comparison of graphs also shows an increase in number of dogs being released to the RSPCA this financial year.



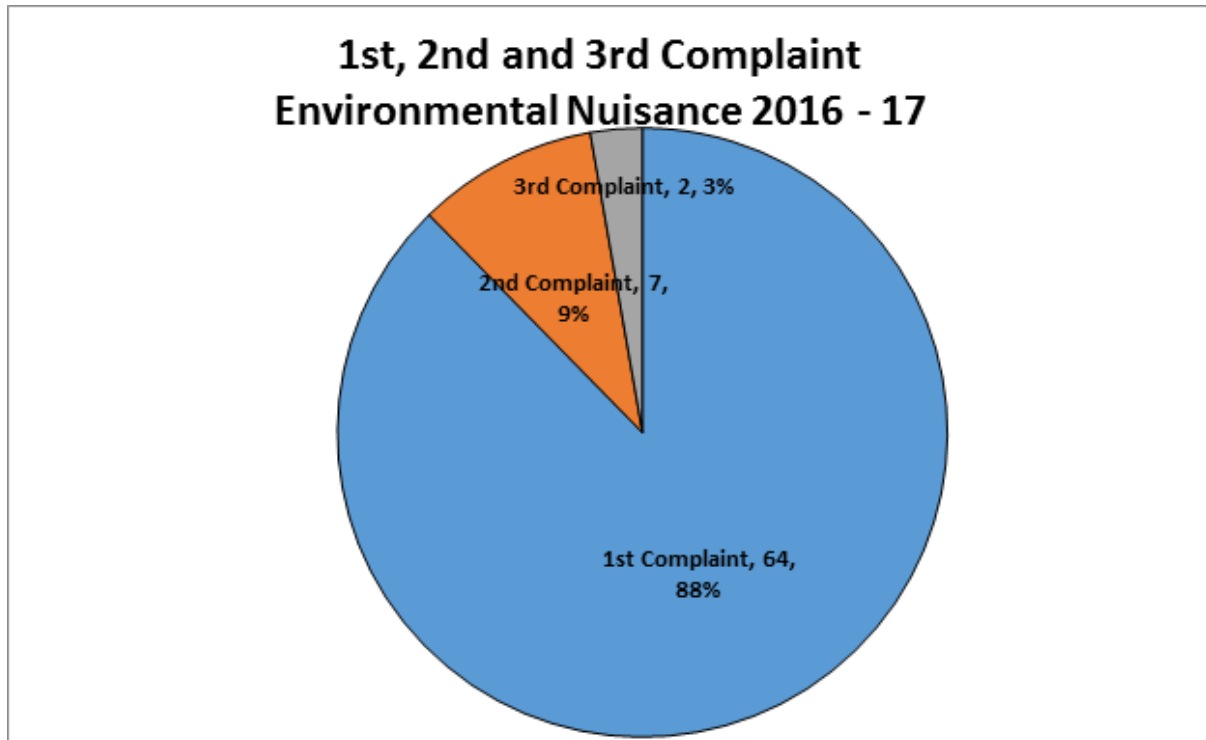
Graph 5: 2016-17 Impounded Animal Outcomes



Graph 6: 2015-16 Impounded Animal Outcome

Environmental Health

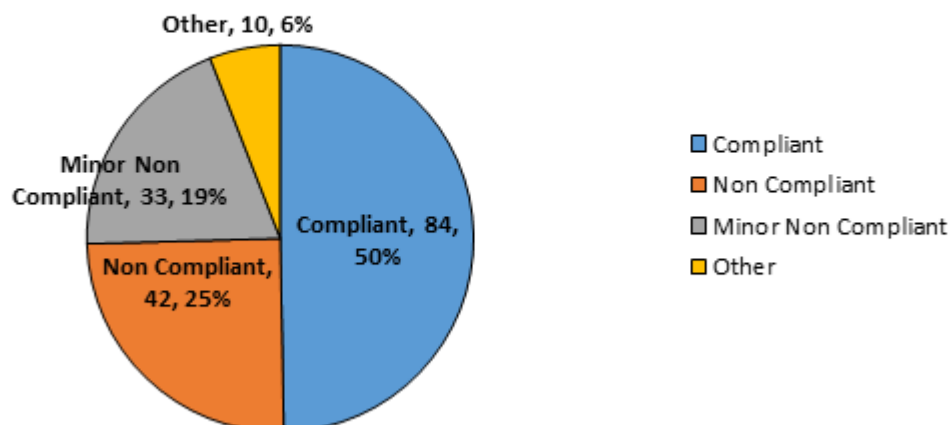
Graph 7 summarises the number of environmental nuisance complaints lodged, as well as the percentage of complaints that have escalated from first to third complaints. In the current financial year, two (2) complaints have escalated to third complaint (whereas 11 escalations occurred in 2015/16 for the financial year).



Graph 7: Environmental Nuisances Escalation

Graph 8 summarises the number of licensed premises routine inspection results completed this year to date. It is evident from the graph that 50% of routine inspections are compliant, 25% non-compliant and 19% being minor non-compliant. Any non-compliant inspections are re-inspected by officers to ensure that remedial work is undertaken.

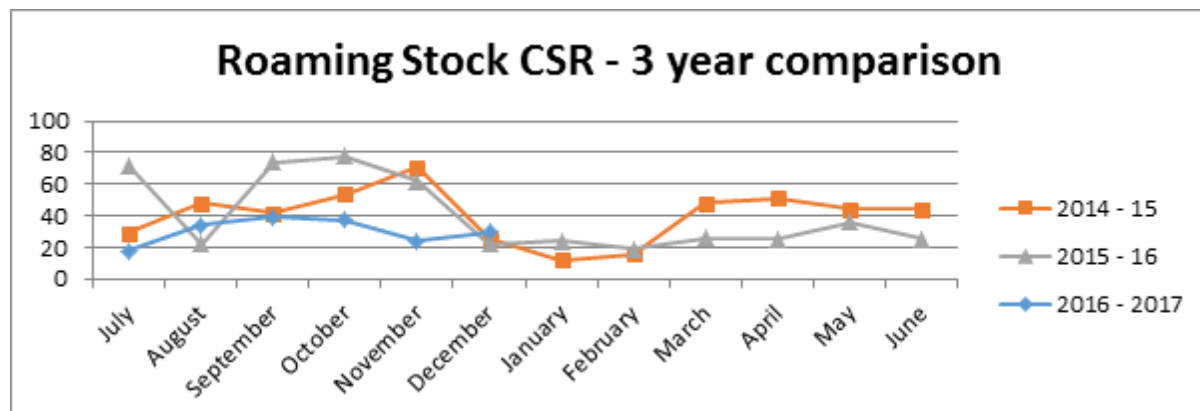
Licensed Premises Routine Inspection Results - 2016-17



Graph 8: 2016/17 Licensed Premises Inspections

Pest Management

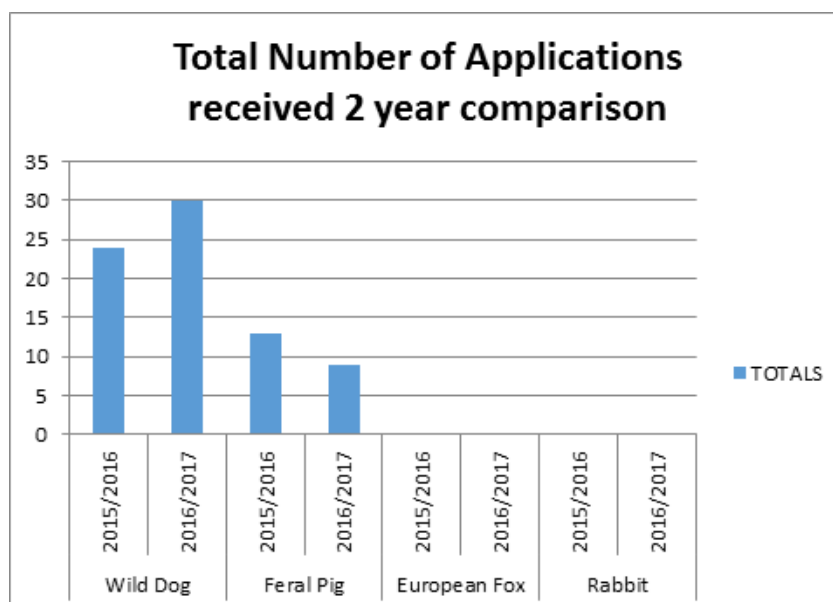
Graph 9 compares the number of stray stock (livestock) CSRs received in the last three financial years. Total number of 2016-17 monthly stray stock CSRs are on average lower than the previous two years, and it is believed that this is attributed to an increase in compliance inspections by the Pest Management Section.



Graph 9: Roaming Stock CSR Yearly Comparison

Graph 10 details the total number of 1080 Baiting Applications received over the last two financial years per wild animal type. The graph demonstrates a significant increase in Wild Dog and Feral Pig applications, with only one bait of Council's biannual baiting campaign being undertaken this financial year. It is uncertain what this increase is attributed to, however, a corresponding increase in pest animal CSRs has also been observed.

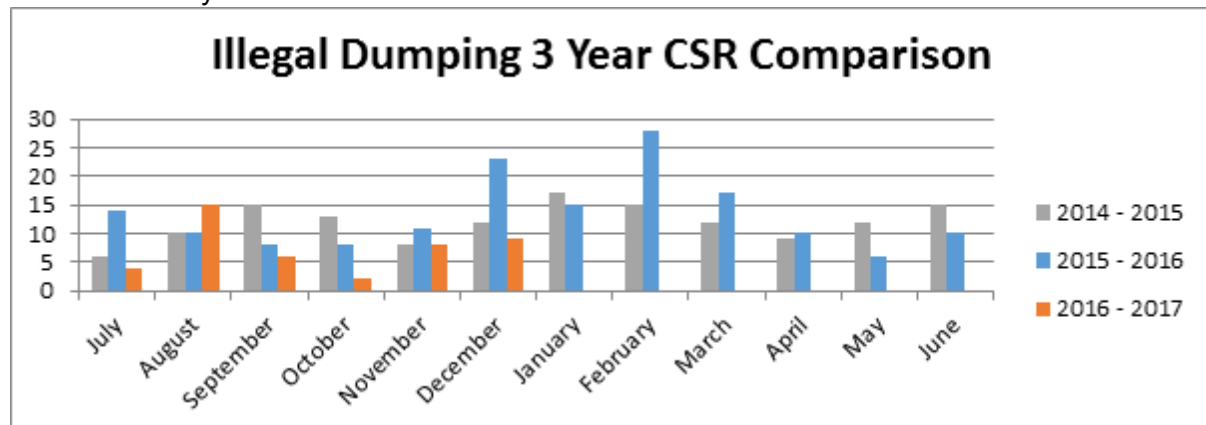
Council will be attempting to increase 1080 baiting participants at the next biannual baiting campaign by supplying 10 free meat baits per landholder in the former Miriam Vale Council region. It is anticipated that this will promote the use of 1080 baiting and increase total numbers of applications received, and hopefully, result in a decrease in pest animal CSRs.



Graph 10: 1080 Baiting Total Applications

Internal Environmental Compliance

Graph 11 summarises monthly total number of illegal dumping/littering CSRs over the past three financial years. No clear trends can be identified.



Graph 11: Monthly Total Illegal Dumping CSRs

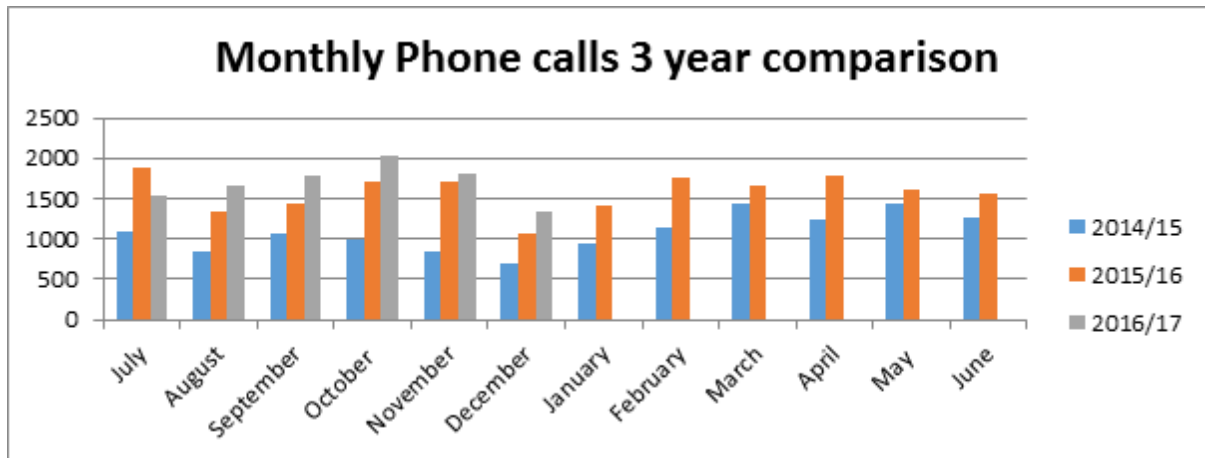
Table 1 is an excerpt from the results of the Internal Environmental Education and Awareness Program Survey (the Survey). The Survey was distributed to all Council employees to aid in the development of an Education and Awareness Program for staff. A total of 192 surveys were completed and all target response rates were met. Engineering Services submitted the highest number of responses.

Internal Environmental Education and Awareness Program		
Which Directorate of Council do you work in?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Corporate Community	24.6%	47
Engineering Services	43.5%	83
Finance Services	7.3%	14
Office of the CEO	7.3%	14
Planning and Environment	17.3%	33
<i>answered question</i>		191
<i>skipped question</i>		1

Table 1: Internal Environmental Education and Awareness Survey Responses

Administration

Graph 12 summarises the number of phone calls received through the Administration Section of the Regulatory Services Division. Number of calls received in the 2016 October to December quarter averages 56/day compared to 48/day for the same period in 2015.



Graph 12: Administration Monthly Total Phone Calls

Business Improvements

Business improvements being considered or already implemented within the Regulatory Services Division includes:

- Streamlining Pest Management Section's chemical testing to simplify the process for officers;
- Review of animal registration and impoundment fees underway to streamline charges and correlate together;
- Update of work procedure with Waste Services for the process of updating Council's Animal Management Records after a landfill receives a deceased animal;
- Launch of Online CSRs; was beneficial during Council's Christmas closure period as it allowed customers to lodge CSRs; and
- Finalisation of Development Application conditions for Pest Management, including confirmation of inspection fees.

Summary:

Nil

Attachments:

Nil

Tabled Items:

Nil

Report Prepared by: Regulatory Services Administration Supervisor

ECSC/5.4. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES ON COUNCIL LAND POLICY AND CORPORATE STANDARD REVIEW REPEAL & ADOPTION

Responsible Officer: Director Planning and Environment

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2017

File Ref: CM28.2 & LE2.25

Purpose:

This report outlines the review undertaken for the Commercial Activities on Council Land Policy and Corporate Standard and seeks Council to consider and adopt a revised policy and corporate standard.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Repeal the Commercial Activities on Council Land Policy P-2014-38; and
2. Repeal the Commercial Activities on Council Land Corporate Standard CS-18-2014; and
3. Adopt the Commercial Activities on Council Land Policy P-2017-01; and
4. Adopt the Commercial Activities on Council Land Corporate Standard CS-01-2017

Background:

Council adopted changes to *Subordinate Local Law 1.2 (Commercial Use of Local Government Controlled Areas and Roads) 2011* at its general meeting held on 6 December 2016 with these changes commencing on 16 December 2016 upon notice in the Government Gazette.

As part of the review of the subordinate local law, it was identified that the policy and corporate standard for Commercial Activities on Council Land would also require review to ensure alignment with the changes made to the subordinate local laws.

A summary of the changes made to the subordinate local law are provided below:

- (a) removed approval requirements for footpath dining, display of goods and busking and replaced with minimum standards; and
- (b) removed the provision that prohibits stationary roadside vending to be operated in an urban area to allow applications to be assessed based on merit.

Consideration:

The policy and corporate standard have been reviewed and aligned to correlate with the new minimum standards for footpath dining, display of goods and busking; and also provide clear guidance on the assessment principles for activity types that are required to gain an approval from Council prior to operating (including stationary roadside vending).

In summary, the policy proposes six guiding principles for assessing any type of activity and an additional three principles for assessing stationary vending applications.

Guiding Principles

1. Community Use Takes Precedence
2. Alignment with Council's Vision
3. Community Benefit
4. Limited Impact
5. Compliance with other Agencies Requirements
6. Annual Approvals – No Exclusive Use or Ongoing Rights

Additional Stationary Vending Principles

1. Whether the activity is competitive with fixed premises to an unfair advantage
2. How the activity contributes to providing local employment
3. Whether the goods or services proposed are needed to meet public demand

Applicants will be requested to address these principles in their applications.

With respect to the corporate standard, it is noted that it is proposed that applications will generally be decided under delegated authority by Manager Regulatory Services with the exception of stationary vending applications that are proposed to be decided by resolution of Council.

Communication and Consultation (Internal/External):

Consultation has occurred internally with relevant staff members on the proposed changes to the policy and corporate standard. Informal consultation occurred with councillors at a meeting held on 20 December 2016.

Legal Environmental and Policy Implications:

The proposed policy (P-2017-01) and corporate standard (CS-01-2017) will replace the existing policy (P-2014-38) and corporate standard (CS-18-2014) if the recommendation is adopted.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil.

Commentary:

Nil.

Summary:

Nil.

Attachments:

1. Current Commercial Activities on Council Land Policy P-2014-38
2. Current Commercial Activities on Council Land Corporate Standard CS-18-2014
3. Proposed - Commercial Activities on Council Land Policy P-2017-01
4. Proposed - Commercial Activities on Council Land Corporate Standard CS-01-2017

Tabled Items:

Nil.

Report Prepared by: Acting Director Planning & Environment

ECSC/5.5. ILLUMINATED ADVERTISING DEVICE APPLICATION FOR GLADSTONE GOLF CLUB

Responsible Officer: Director Planning & Environment

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2017

File Ref: LE2.22

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to consider an advertising device application received from Bishop Advertising for the installation of two illuminated digital advertising devices at Gladstone Golf Club, Lot 127 on Plan CTN 2158 Hickory Avenue, Kin Kora.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Installation of Advertising Device Application (AD-11) for two illuminated digital advertising devices located at Lot 127 CTN2158, Hickory Avenue, Kin Kora be approved subject to the following conditions:

Standard Conditions

1. The approval holder must:
 - a. maintain public liability insurance to the value of \$20,000,000 (\$20 million) against personal injury and property damage resulting from the activities authorised by this approval; and
 - b. allow an authorised person to have reasonable access to the advertising device during reasonable hours; and
 - c. ensure that the activities authorised by the approval do not cause a nuisance or create a road safety risk; and
 - d. obtain and be responsible for maintaining all other necessary permits and approvals from other relevant local, state and federal agencies prior to installation of the advertising device. This includes building and operational works (if applicable) permits from Gladstone Regional Council.
2. This approval must be kept by the owner and made available to an authorised person if requested.

Installation of Device

3. The approval holder must:
 - a. ensure the structures relating to the advertising device are maintained and in good condition at all times; and
 - b. maintain the advertising device in good order and repair; and
 - c. ensure that the structure and images displayed on the sign at no point deteriorate to a level which detracts from the visual amenities of the area; and
 - d. meet all criteria outlined in Schedule 4 'General criteria for installation, erection and display of advertising devices' of *Subordinate Local Law No. 1.4 (Installation of Advertising Devices) 2011*; and
 - e. install the advertising device at the specific location outlined in the approval; and
 - f. apply for a new approval if the proposed sign is not erected within 12 months from the date of this letter; and
 - g. ensure the signs are no more than 6.5m above the ground level and be no greater than the dimensions requested in the application.

Additional Conditions

4. Ensure that luminance intensity of the signage is a maximum of 350 candelas (*for night time traffic*).
5. Moving objects, flashing, blinking, revolving, pulsating, high contrast or rotating effects, animation and motion are not permitted.
6. Ensure slides and loops are a minimum of 8 – 10 seconds.
7. Transition between loops must be instantaneous, with no animation.
8. Advertising graphics cannot resemble or be reasonably confused with a traffic control device of any kind including traffic lights, speed signs, stop signs, etc.
9. The digital display screen of the advertising device must incorporate an automatic error detection system which will turn off the screen display or display a blank screen should the Advertising Device malfunction.
10. The advertising device display screen must incorporate a minimum of two (2) automated ambient light sensors capable of supporting a minimum of five (5) levels of stepped dimming to ensure display screen luminance can adjust automatically in response to surrounding ambient light conditions from dark of night to full sunlight conditions.
11. The advertising device display screen must provide for on site control, operation, configuration and diagnosis of the screen display.
12. The advertising device display screen must not be split to display multiple advertisements on the one display screen.
13. Advertisements must only promote a single, self-contained advertising message that is clear, succinct, legible and easily understood at a glance. The use of text components in a sequential manner, whereby text refers to or is reliant on previous or successive screen displays in order to convey an advertising message is not permitted.
14. The advertising device must not be capable of playing audio or synchronised with any outdoor sound system utilised for advertising purposes.
15. Any lighting devices associated with the signage, such as sensory lighting, must be positioned on the site and shielded so as not to cause glare or other nuisance to nearby residents or motorists.

Background:

Council received an application from Bishop Advertising for the installation of two illuminated advertising devices at the Gladstone Golf Club, Lot 127 on Plan CTN 2158 Hickory Avenue, Kin Kora on 27 October 2016.

The application proposes the installation of two illuminated digital advertising devices to be installed at the site, being sign A and sign B. The two devices are proposed to be approximately 190 metres in distance apart from one another.

Sign A (Image 1) is proposed to be located approximately 50m south of Phillip Street/Dawson Highway intersection, with the following specifications:

- Width - 4.5m;
- Height - 6.5m;
- Surface Area - 29.25m²
- One support pylon;
- Vertical signage position;
- Variable luminance, depending on ambient light (see below reference);
- Be northward facing; and
- Setback 15.3m from the edge of road.



Image 1: Sign A

Sign B (Image 2) is proposed to be located within close proximity to the intersection of Golf Course Road and Dawson Highway, with the following specifications:

- Width - 6m;
- Height – 3m;
- Surface Area 18m²;
- One support pylon;
- Horizontal signage position;
- Variable luminance, depending on ambient light (see below reference);
- Be southward facing; and
- Setback 16.5m from the edge of road.



Image 2: Sign B

The advertising device application was assessed against Council's *Subordinate Local Law No.1.4 (Installation of Advertising Devices) 2011*, which outlines a number of performance

outcomes which must be achieved by the applicant, including Schedule 4 requirement 11 which states that *'if the advertising device is illuminated - (a) the advertising device must not be positioned so as to create glare or nuisance to pedestrian or vehicular traffic'*.

In support of the advertising device application, and to meet the above requirement, Bishop Advertising attached a recent study conducted by Samsa Consulting (Attachment 3) whose findings show that digital billboards, similar to the devices proposed, have minimal to no distraction on road users and should not increase the risk of traffic accidents.

When assessing the application against Council's *Subordinate Local Law No.1.4 (installation of Advertising Devices) 2011*, Council's Regulatory Services Division sent written correspondence to DTMR on 27 October 2016 regarding the advertising device application due to it being located within DTMR's 'Restricted Zone'. DTMR responded to Council on 18 November 2016 (Attachment 2) and voiced objection to the application, namely Sign A, due to the advertising devices being a potential traffic hazard. DTMR also noted that if Council was to approve the devices and DTMR considers they pose a hazard to traffic, they have the power to have the advertising devices modified or removed under section 111 of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management-Accreditation and Other Provisions) Regulation 2015* (Qld).

Consideration:

Option 1 (Recommended)

That Installation of Advertising Device Application (AD-11) for two illuminated digital advertising devices located at Lot 127 CTN2158, Hickory Avenue, Kin Kora be approved subject to the following conditions:

Standard Conditions

1. The approval holder must:
 - a. maintain public liability insurance to the value of \$20,000,000 (\$20 million) against personal injury and property damage resulting from the activities authorised by this approval; and
 - b. allow an authorised person to have reasonable access to the advertising device during reasonable hours; and
 - c. ensure that the activities authorised by the approval do not cause a nuisance or create a road safety risk; and
 - d. obtain and be responsible for maintaining all other necessary permits and approvals from other relevant local, state and federal agencies prior to installation of the advertising device. This includes building and operational works (if applicable) permits from Gladstone Regional Council.
2. This approval must be kept by the owner and made available to an authorised person if requested.

Installation of Device

3. The approval holder must:
 - a. ensure the structures relating to the advertising device are maintained and in good condition at all times; and
 - b. maintain the advertising device in good order and repair; and
 - c. ensure that the structure and images displayed on the sign at no point deteriorate to a level which detracts from the visual amenities of the area; and
 - d. meet all criteria outlined in Schedule 4 'General criteria for installation, erection and display of advertising devices' of *Subordinate Local Law No. 1.4 (Installation of Advertising Devices) 2011*; and

- e. install the advertising device at the specific location outlined in the approval; and
- f. apply for a new approval if the proposed sign is not erected within 12 months from the date of this letter; and
- g. ensure the signs are no more than 6.5m above the ground level and be no greater than the dimensions requested in the application.

Additional Conditions

- 4. Ensure that luminance intensity of the signage is a maximum of 350 candelas (*for night time traffic*).
- 5. Moving objects, flashing, blinking, revolving, pulsating, high contrast or rotating effects, animation and motion are not permitted.
- 6. Ensure slides and loops are a minimum of 8 – 10 seconds.
- 7. Transition between loops must be instantaneous, with no animation.
- 8. Advertising graphics cannot resemble or be reasonably confused with a traffic control device of any kind including traffic lights, speed signs, stop signs, etc.
- 9. The digital display screen of the advertising device must incorporate an automatic error detection system which will turn off the screen display or display a blank screen should the Advertising Device malfunction.
- 10. The advertising device display screen must incorporate a minimum of two (2) automated ambient light sensors capable of supporting a minimum of five (5) levels of stepped dimming to ensure display screen luminance can adjust automatically in response to surrounding ambient light conditions from dark of night to full sunlight conditions.
- 11. The advertising device display screen must provide for on site control, operation, configuration and diagnosis of the screen display.
- 12. The advertising device display screen must not be split to display multiple advertisements on the one display screen.
- 13. Advertisements must only promote a single, self-contained advertising message that is clear, succinct, legible and easily understood at a glance. The use of text components in a sequential manner, whereby text refers to or is reliant on previous or successive screen displays in order to convey an advertising message is not permitted.
- 14. The advertising device must not be capable of playing audio or synchronised with any outdoor sound system utilised for advertising purposes.
- 15. Any lighting devices associated with the signage, such as sensory lighting, must be positioned on the site and shielded so as not to cause glare or other nuisance to nearby residents or motorists.

Option 2

Sign B only be approved with the conditions outlined in Option 1, and sign A be refused based on DTMR's strong objection to the application.

Option 3

Refuse the application for both sign A and sign B based on the potential nuisance and hazard for vehicular and pedestrian traffic; and the strong objection from DTMR.

Option 4

Delay a decision on the application and request Bishop Advertising to contract a relevant consultant to undertake a site specific assessment of the proposed site to determine the impacts that the proposed advertising devices would have on the safety of vehicle users and pedestrians.

Communication and Consultation (Internal/External):

Gladstone Regional Council's Planning Section

Currently permanent signage applications on private properties are being assessed against *Subordinate Local Law No.1.4 (Installation of Advertising Devices) 2011* as the current planning scheme does not include requirements for these type of signs. However, the proposed Planning Scheme amendments include for permanent signage applications on private property to be assessed by the Planning Division against the Planning Scheme. Accordingly, the Planning Section have been consulted regarding this application and provided input into the proposed conditions.

Rockhampton Regional Council Planning Division

Rockhampton Regional Council's Planning Division were contacted when assessing the application as the applicant indicated a similar sign type was recently approved by Rockhampton Regional Council.

Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR)

DTMR were sent this application on 27 October 2016 with a request to provide comment. DTMR response is provided in Attachment 2.

Legal Environmental and Policy Implications:

Installation of advertising devices are currently assessed against *Subordinate Local Law No.1.4 (Installation of Advertising Devices) 2011 - Schedule 4 'General criteria for installation, erection and display of advertising devices'*. Requirement 11 states that '*if the advertising device is illuminated - (a) the advertising device must not be positioned so as to create glare or nuisance to pedestrian or vehicular traffic.*

If an advertising device is approved by Council, but is later determined that the approval holder has failed to meet the conditions of the application (including if the sign(s) are in fact affecting the safety or amenity of the area), Council can either request amendments be made to the signage to ensure compliance or cancel the approval thereby effectively requiring the removal of the signage under section 17 of *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011*.

After the proposed Gladstone Regional Council Planning Scheme amendments are adopted, new signage applications will be assessed by the Planning Division against the Planning Scheme.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil

Commentary:

Nil

Summary:

Illuminated advertising devices are becoming a commonly used advertising medium. This report has been presented to Council to determine if Council supports illuminated advertising devices being installed at the proposed location and what conditions are deemed appropriate for these devices.

Attachments:

1. Bishop Advertising Application for Gladstone Golf Club
2. Department of Transport and Main Roads Response Regarding Gladstone Golf Club Application
3. Samsa Consulting Report on the Impacts of Illuminated Devices

Tabled Items:

Nil.

Report Prepared by: Acting Manager Regulatory Services

ECSC/5.6. LIBRARY SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2017

File Ref: CM19.2

Purpose:

The purpose of the report is to provide the monthly update for Library Services for November/December 2016.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Library Services Monthly report for the period ended December 2016 be received.

Commentary:

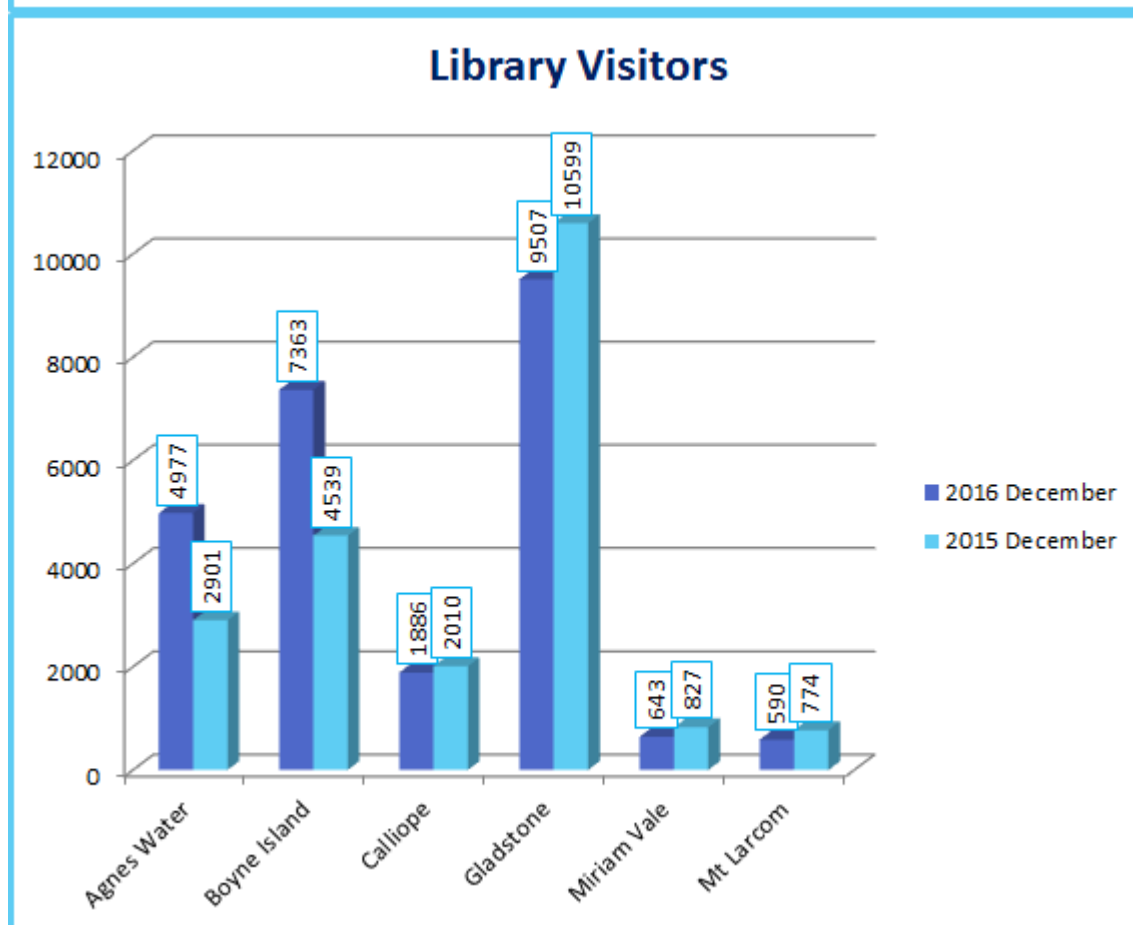
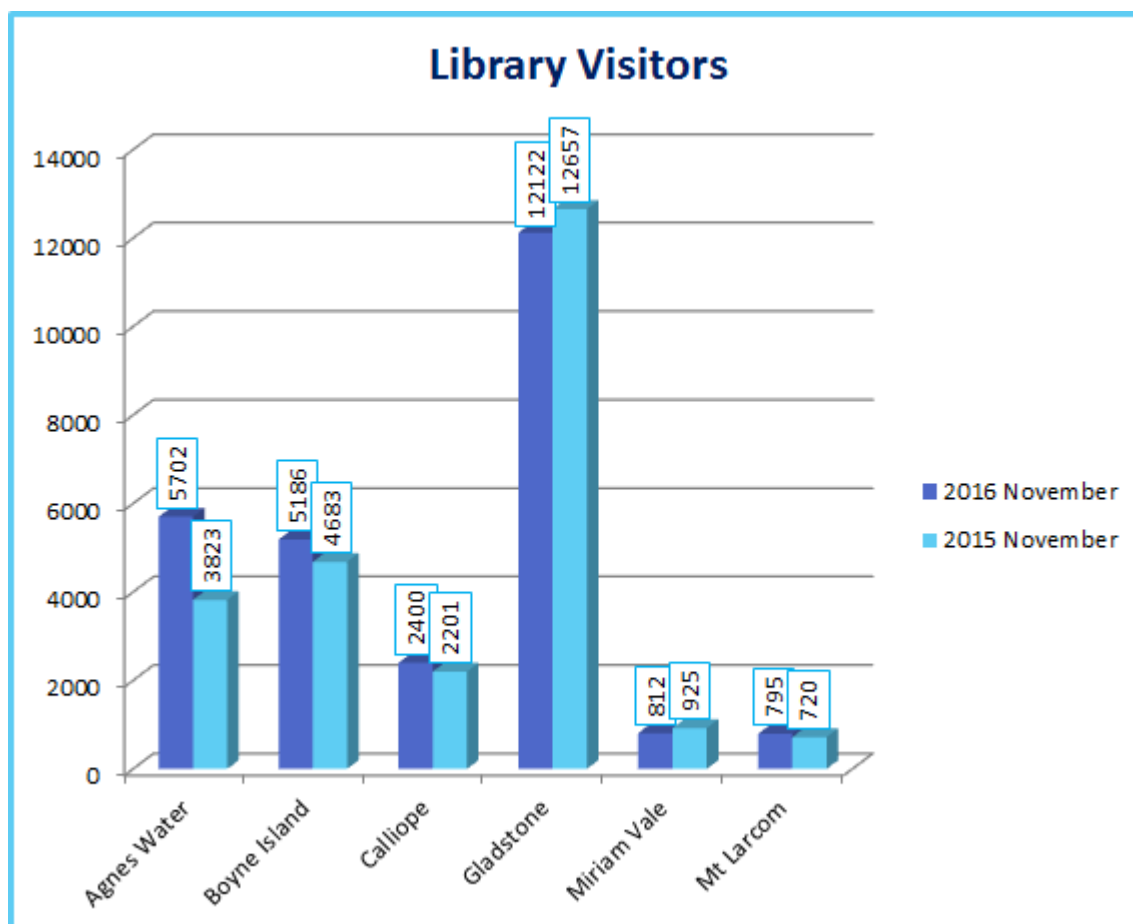
Progress Report: Operational Plan (Targets/Key Performance Indicators)

Comparative Benchmarks

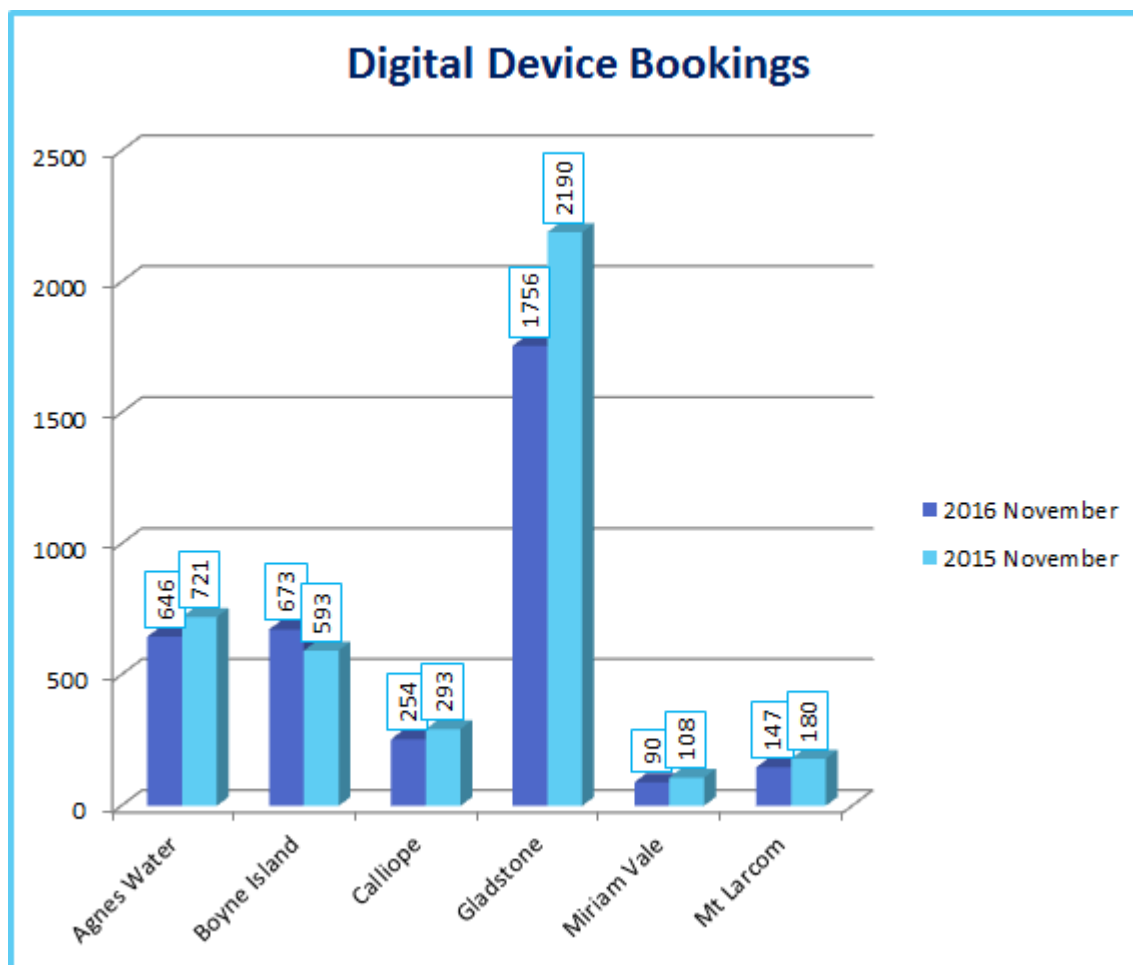
One of the methods in which we advertise the events and services of the libraries around the region is to use Facebook and Twitter. Attached is the Facebook page report for the period 1 November to 31 December 2016.

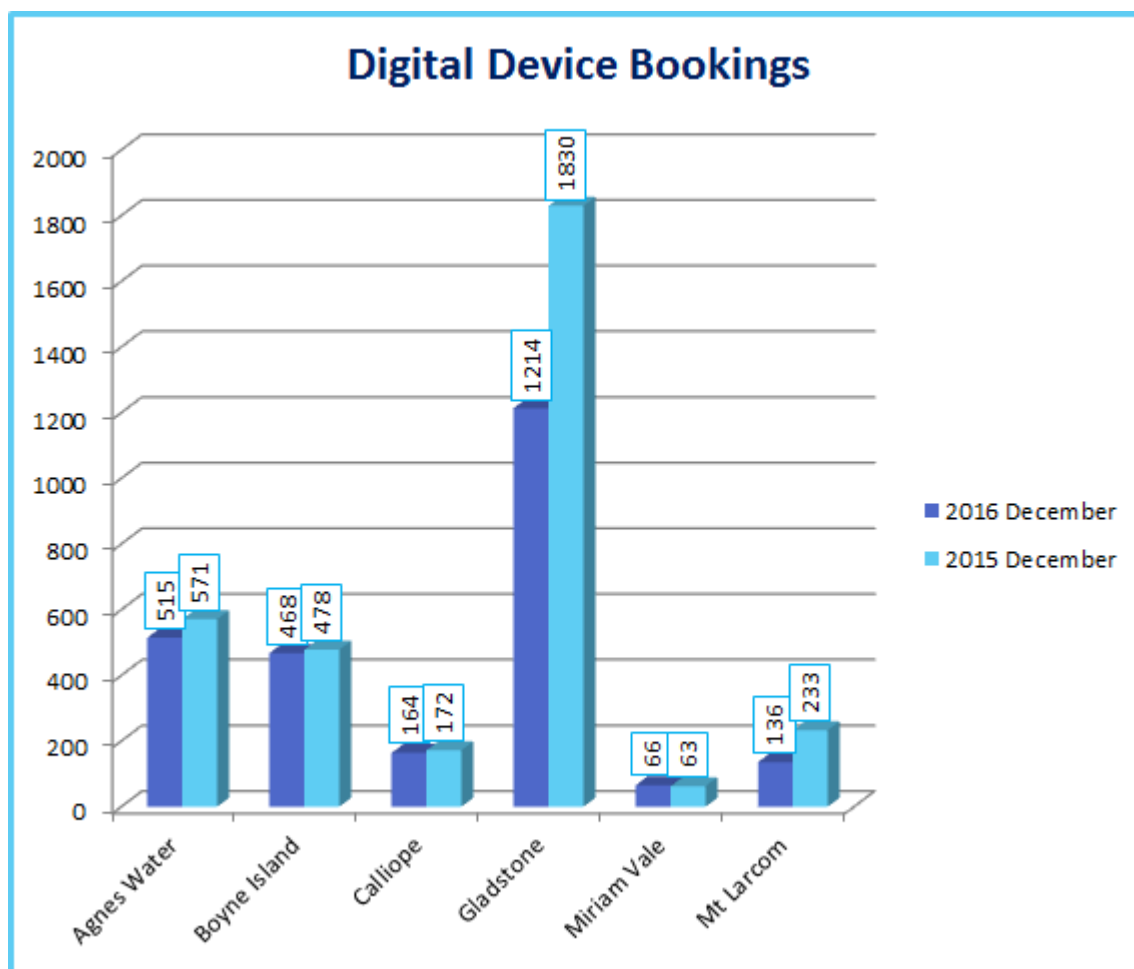
Other benchmarks include; visits to the library, attendance at events, and use of the various digital devices supplied to our community.

During the November and December period, Gladstone Regional Libraries had a total of 51,983 physical visits to our libraries.

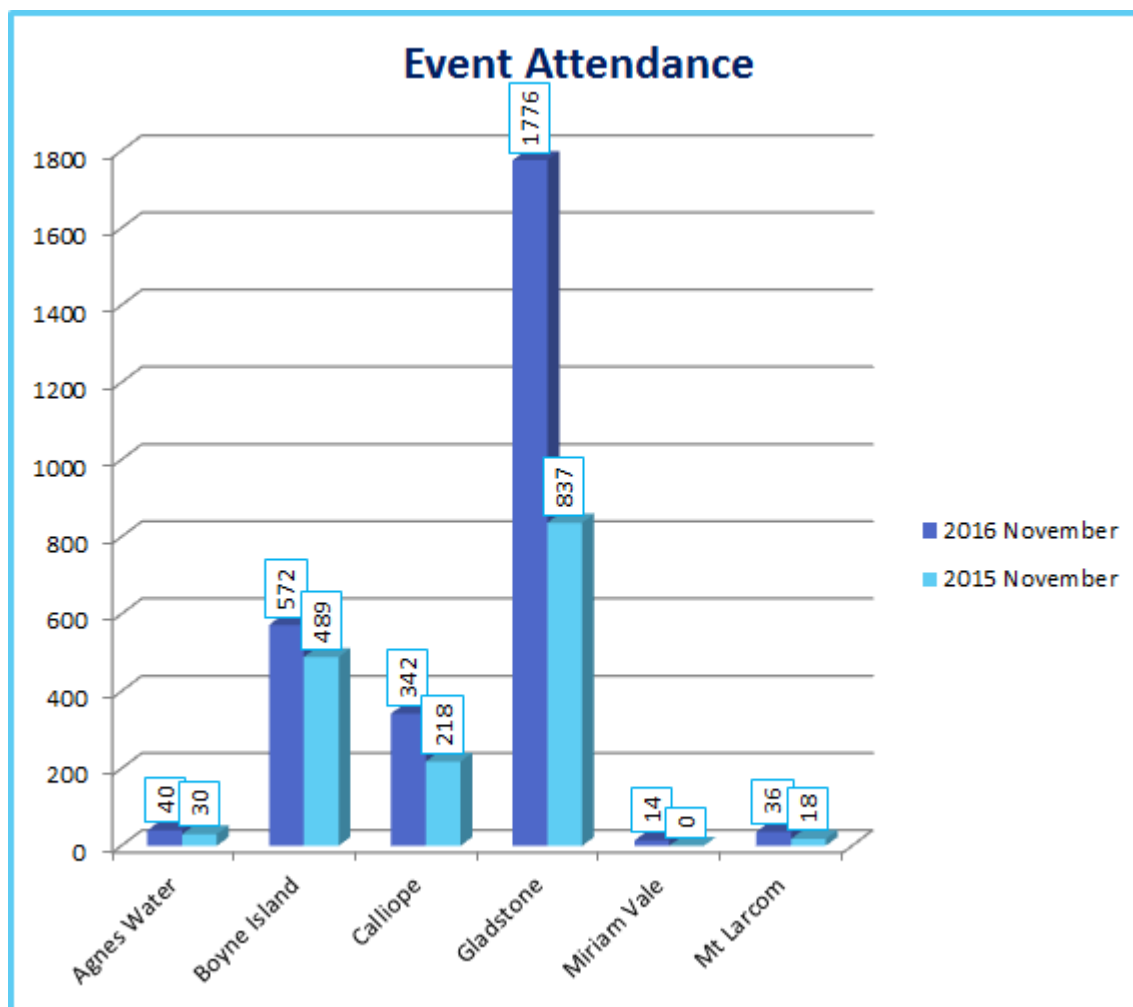


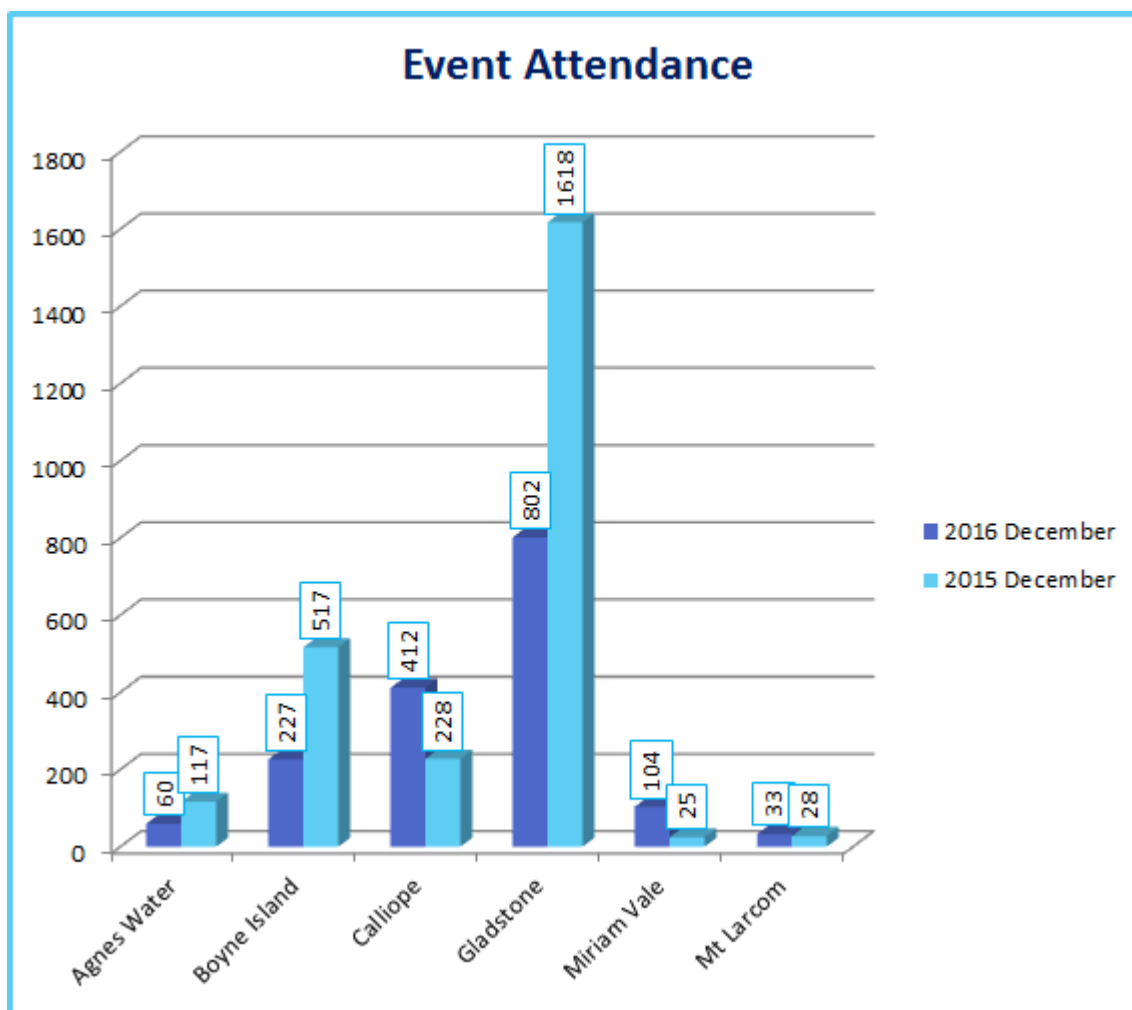
Digital device usage, includes the use of the public access computers at all branches as well as iPads and other devices leant for use within the library. These devices continue to be popular with a total of 6,129 uses within the two month period.





Statistics are taken at the events our libraries hold throughout the region. Events such as holiday activities, visiting authors (adults & children), children's activities (Storytime, Baby Bounce, Toddler Time etc.), technology training and more are all counted. During the months of November/December event attendance totaled 4,418 people.





Notable matters

December saw the last of our Tech Savvy Seniors training delivered. Attached is the acquittal for the grant. Technical training will continue at Gladstone Library under the title of Tech Savvy Tuesday and each branch will provide similar training.

November was a busy month with Boyne Island Library celebrating with the Christmas Extravaganza and a First Five Forever event at Gladstone Marina. The First Five Forever event was also part of Social Inclusion Week and the library partnered with Save the Children and C4C (Community for Children) to provide a visit from Old MacDonald's Farm, craft, stories, puppets and a fun day for everyone, with approximately 500 adults and children in attendance.

Gladstone Library also took part in the Council sponsored Social Inclusion Week by holding a 'Library after Dark' event in which we had demonstrations of our new robots and circuits.

December saw the beginning of school holidays with the attendant activities that each library provides and the launch of Summer Reading Club. At Gladstone Library a new venture, Code Club, was begun. The mission of Code Club Australia is to give every child in Australia the skills, confidence and opportunity to shape their world.

Financial and Resource Implications:

A copy of the Financial Management report for the period ended 31 December 2016 (50.68% of year passed) is attached. Members will note:

1. Overall, the Library Services is trading slightly high (55.3%) against its budget:
 - a. The second of four payments from State Library for the annual Public Library Grant which is paid in quarterly increments has been received.
 - b. 54.6% of expenditure (\$3.6 million) committed.
2. There are various overs and unders in the six (6) different business units that make up the Library Service:
 - a. BU480 – Gladstone Home Library Service
 - b. BU485 – Gladstone Library
 - c. BU600 – Agnes Water Library
 - d. BU601 – Boyne Tannum Community Centre
 - e. BU602 – Calliope Library
 - f. BU603 – Miriam Vale Library
3. The Mt Larcom Library is accounted for principally as a Customer Service Centre and, therefore, does not show separately in the Library accounts.

Summary:

November and December were successful and busy months at all our libraries and we are already planning for next school holidays and times in between.

Attachments:

1. Facebook page report for 1 November to 31 December 2016
2. Tech Savvy Seniors Grant Acquittal
3. Financial Management Report

Tabled Items:

Nil.

Report Prepared by: Regional Librarian

ECSC/5.7. GLADSTONE REGIONAL ART GALLERY MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2017

File Ref: CM19.2

Purpose:

The purpose of the report is to provide the monthly report for the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum for November and December 2016.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Monthly Report for the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum for the period ended 31 December 2016 be 'received'.

Background:

Monthly Report for the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum.

Commentary:

Progress Report: Operational Plan (Targets/Key Performance Indicators)

Exhibitions

- *The 41st Rio Tinto Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards 2016:* 15 October - 8 December 2016.
- *A Place to Call Home? Migrant Hostel Memories:* 16 December 2016 - 28 January 2017;
- *Saiki Children's Art 2017:* 17 December 2016 - 28 January 2017;
- *GRAGM Curated: A Bit of Everything:* 17 December 2016 - 30 January 2017;
- *APPROPRIATE / NOT APPROPRIATE: Works by Felicia Lloyd and Belynda (Bindi) Waugh:* 17 December 2016 - 25 February 2017;
- *Take a Seat: The Art of Peter Rowe:* 17 December 2016 - 25 February 2017.

Events, Launches & Special Dates

- *The 41st Rio Tinto Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards 2016 Artists' Talks:* 10.30am, Saturday 26 November.
- *The 41st Rio Tinto Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards 2016 Rio Tinto Community Fund Cocktail Party:* 6pm, Thursday 1 December 2016;
- *The 41st Rio Tinto Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards 2016 QAL People's Choice Awards Presentation and Morning Tea:* 10.30am, Wednesday, 7 December 2016;
- Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum Christmas Breakfast: 8.30am, Sunday, 11 December 2016;

- Official Launch of three exhibitions: *APPROPRIATE / NOT APPROPRIATE: Works by Felicia Lloyd and Belynda (Bindi) Waugh, A Place to Call Home? Migrant Hostel Memories, GRAGM Curated: A Bit of Everything*: 6pm, Friday, 16 December 2016.
- P&O cruise ship visitors toured the Gallery & Museum: from 10am, Tuesday, 20 December 2016;
- *Over the Hill* Walking Tour with local historical researcher Paulette Flint: 10.30am, Tuesday, 20 December 2016.
- *Art in Parks* Pop Up Public Art, a series of ephemeral artworks created by local artists were installed in regional parks, by 10 December 2016;
- 550cm x 130cm pop up public artwork featuring 60 *Celebrate Australia Primary School Art Competition* winners from the past 10 years was installed in the Gladstone CBD on 21 December 2016.

School & Community Tours/Workshops

- St Stephens Lutheran College visit: 3 students, 4 November 2016;
- Learning & Life Endeavour Group (Special Needs): 4 attendees, 16 November 2016;
- St Stephens Lutheran College visit: 37 students, 23 November 2016;
- St Stephens Lutheran College visit: 19 students, 24 November 2016;
- *2017 Celebrate Australia* Primary School Art Competition Workshops:
 - 10.30am to 12pm, Monday 12 December 2016 at the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum, 14 participants;
 - 10.30am to 12pm, Wednesday 14 December 2016 at the Miriam vale Community Centre, 5 participants;
 - 10.30am to 12pm, Friday 16 December 2016 at the Calliope Community Centre, 6 participants;

Historical & Heritage Projects

- Assisted with two volunteers in November: 94 hours;
- Assisted with two volunteers in December: 39 hours;
- Asset Register worked with Registration Assistant Paula and volunteer Jen: 8 hours;
- Attended: AGM meeting for Boyne Valley Heritage Society;
- Worked a day at the Boyne Valley Heritage Society Cottage to help rearrange their displays;
- Signed off on *Our Priceless Past* returns;
- Attended CBD meeting;
- Local Heritage Register: Mt Larcom Police Station History;
- Research Enquires (email, walk-in, phone): 30;
- Demount the *41st Rio Tinto Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards 2016* exhibition;
- Install *GRAGM Curated: A Bit of Everything*;
- Information on 'Hut River Province' for Stephen Mills;
- Work started for list of Aboriginal and Torres Islanders who service in the defence services, for Australian War Memorial;
- Work on Collection Management plan: Heritage Assistant Harry (including re labelling and re filing) *and notes on the white board*;
- Work on Vernon Collection Management System;
- 9 historical Flashback Friday posts on Facebook:
 - #FlashbackFriday post on 4 November 2016 reached 1974 people;
 - #FlashbackFriday post on 11 November 2016 reached 3365 people;
 - #FlashbackFriday post on 18 November 2016 reached 2093 people;
 - #FlashbackFriday post on 25 November 2016 reached 3289 people;

- #FlashbackFriday post on 2 December 2016 reached 2373 people;
- #FlashbackFriday post on 9 December 2016 reached 6134 people;
- #FlashbackFriday post on 16 December 2016 reached 2193 people;
- #FlashbackFriday post on 23 December 2016 reached 1742 people;
- #FlashbackFriday post on 30 December 2016 reached 2912 people;

Promotional Reach

November 2016

- GRAGM website: <http://gragm.qld.gov.au>. It was used a lot to access *Art Awards* information. See *attachment 4*.
- Active Social Media accounts: Facebook (see *attachment 5*), Vimeo, SoundCloud.
- Featured presenter on Fresh FM every Wednesday (2, 9, 16 and 23 November).
- Featured presenter on 4CC on Thursday (17, 24 November).
- GRAGM advert running at the Gladstone Cinemas (from 2 June 2016 for 1 year contract, playing in Cinemas 1, 3 and 5).
- GRAGM advert running daily on a carousel in the Gladstone Public Hospital waiting room (2 year contract from March 2016).
- Gladstone News Weekly advert and column (3, 10, 17 and 24 November).
- Coverage in the Gladstone Observer:
 - Tuesday Observer advert (1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 November)
 - Thursday Observer Column (3, 10, 17 and 24 November)
 - Friday Observer advert (4, 11, 18 and 25 November)
 - Online carousel advert is currently running for 6 months (July - December 2016) on <http://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/>
- Appeared in GRC publications eConnect and Council Connections.
- Exhibitions listings adverts appeared in national publications including Art Guide, Eyeline and Spirit.
- November email mail-out; Sent 18 November to over 1,547 email subscribers.

December 2016

- GRAGM website: <http://gragm.qld.gov.au>. It was used a lot to access *Art Awards* information as well as *Art in Parks*. See *attachment 6*.
- Active Social Media accounts: Facebook (see *attachment 7*), Vimeo, SoundCloud.
- Featured presenter on Fresh FM every Wednesday (7, 14 and 21 December).
- Featured presenter on 4CC on Thursday (1, 8 and 15 December).
- GRAGM advert running at the Gladstone Cinemas (from 2 June 2016 for 1 year contract, playing in Cinemas 1, 3 and 5).
- GRAGM advert running daily on a carousel in the Gladstone Public Hospital waiting room (2 year contract from March 2016).
- Gladstone News Weekly advert and column (1, 8, 15 and 22 December).
- Coverage in the Gladstone Observer:
 - Tuesday Observer advert (6, 13 and 20 December)
 - Thursday Observer Column (1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 December)
 - Friday Observer advert (2, 9, 16 and 23 December)
 - Online carousel advert is currently running for 6 months (July - December 2016) on <http://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/>
- *Channel 7 Local News* attended the *Art Awards* QAL People's Choice Announcements and interviewed the winners on camera - played during the 6pm News, 01.12.2016.

- Gladstone News Weekly attended the *Art Awards* QAL People's Choice Announcements and photographed the winners - included in the 8.12.2016 edition.
- Appeared in GRC publications eConnect and Council Connections.
- Exhibitions listings adverts appeared in national publications including Art Guide, Eyeline and Spirit.
- December mail out posted to 370 members, email mail-out sent 9 December to 1,460 email subscribers.

Visitors Comments

See Attachment 1 & 2.

Collection - Historical & Heritage & Art

Artist Name	Title of work	Date	Medium
FROST, Margaret	Hi Vis Invasion	2012	acrylic on canvas
PUGH, Rujunko	Ningyo II	2016	Screen print & acrylic on paper
SCOTT, Gwen	Pomona dreaming of her nemesis	2016	Reduction linocut on paper
MOLONEY, Beau-Dean	De-Construction	2016	linocut print on paper
MAY, Jemima	In the shadow of the spotlight	2016	acrylic on canvas
SMALL, Todd	Street Lights	2016	watercolour on paper
KATO, Miho	Furisode	2016	acrylic on canvas
PEREIRA, Andreia	This house is full of madness	2016	ceramic handbuilt and brass.
VAN STADEN, Ilse	The Hovering	2016	acrylic on canvas
KLEINGELD, Tasman	Tingarri Men's Business	2016	acrylic
CARLYON, Ping	Good Night Gladstone	2016	watercolour on arches paper
CARLYON, Ping	Good Morning Gladstone	2016	watercolour on arches paper
ROSS-MANLEY, Jan	Past Port Souvenir	2016	composite drawing and montage on draughting stock
HATTER, Collin	Upside Down	2016	acrylic on paper on canvas
HATTER, Collin	Cabins	2016	acrylic on paper on canvas
BLACK, Lynda	The Passing	2016	stop motion animation
BLACK, Lynda	The Farewell	2016	stop motion animation
NEWKIRK, Matthew	Blind Man's Bluff	2016	screen print on 200gsm paper
ROSS-MANLEY, Jan	Strange Times on Goondoon Street #2	2016	composite drawing and montage on draughting stock

Volunteers

Monthly Volunteers Statistics

MONTH	VOLUNTEER HRS	ACTIVE VOLUNTEER	INTERVIEWS SCHEDULED	VOLUNTEERS RESIGN
November 2016	257	35	Nil	Nil
December 2016	270	33	Nil	2

Visitations

Monthly Visitation Statistics

MONTH	VISITOR NUMBER
November 2016	1382
December 2016	1561

Comparative Benchmarks

Notable Matters

- The Curator judged the 2016 Central Highlands Art Award in Emerald, assessed the National Galleries and Museums 2017 Conference papers, presented the 2016 Golding Showcase People's Choice Awards at Chanel College, attended the final Curtis Coast Literary Carnivale meeting and David Engwicht's talk at the Civic Centre (accompanied by Cultural Projects Supervisor).
- During November, the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum hosted a high school work experience student for a period of two weeks. The work experience was organised by Equip. The student participated in activities such as general administration and research tasks as well as assisting with installation of exhibitions.
- Sarah Robertson, Exhibitions and Education Officer at GRAGM was selected for the Backstage Pass Regional Internship Program at QAGOMA, Brisbane. During the two week intensive course, Sarah was able to gain valuable insight into how a large scale Gallery operates and use this new knowledge to improve GRAGM's current methods and operations.

Emerging Issues

Grants & Funding Table

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) received eight (8) Expressions of Interest and six (6) Applications for Funding (including one Out of Round submission), requesting \$31,463.

Hosted assessment meeting where the RADF committee recommended six (6) applications for funding (including Out of Round submission) for \$30,463 as well as ten (10) Outcome Reports as successful acquittals, for consideration at Council meeting 6 December.

ArtReach Queensland Director Stephen Clark conducted 8 project consultations with RADF committee members and applicants, be teleconference and Skype, to assist in the development of the applications.

Hosted RADF Funding Presentation with committee members, successful applicants and friends, with performance by recipient Hayley Marsten.

The RADF strategic initiative *Gladstone Region Art in Parks*, hosted in conjunction with Parks & Environment, received 29 pop up public art proposals, from 17 local artists. 22 offers were extended to 17 local artists. 14 artists accepted offers, with 20 artworks to be installed by December 10, in 16 regional parks.

A 10 page brochure was developed featuring the artists, artworks and parks, for printing and distribution in December, both hard copy and online.

RADF strategic project: *Gladstone Region Art in Parks*: completed 20 installations, in 16 regional parks, works by 14 local artists and circulated publication. Joined the Curator for a tour of the works, visiting 13 regional parks and documenting the project.

Received 227 entries in the 2017 *Celebrate Australia Primary School Art Competition*, from students across the region, including 15 schools. Awards to be presented on Australia Day during Council's celebrations at Tannum Sands.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Operating Budget

November

Business Unit: 495 - AGM Operations

Total Expenses	534,504	16,275	550,779	1,413,376	39.0%	1,413,376	39.0%
Net Operating Income\ (Expenditure)	(525,659)	(17,175)	(542,834)	(1,405,076)	38.6%	(1,405,076)	38.6%

Business Unit: 510 - Martin Hanson Awards

Total Expenses	10,999	300	11,299	59,650	18.9%	59,650	18.9%
Net Operating Income\ (Expenditure)	33,296	(300)	32,996	(20,090)	-164.2%	(20,090)	-164.2%

Business Unit: 615 - AGM Operations

Total Expenses	16,100	9,920	26,020	141,500	18.4%	141,500	18.4%
Net Operating Income\ (Expenditure)	33,900	(9,920)	23,980	(78,300)	-30.6%	(78,300)	-30.6%

December

Business Unit: 495 - AGM Operations

Total Expenses	665,610	16,591	682,201	1,428,752	47.7%	1,413,376	48.3%
Net Operating Income\ (Expenditure)	(655,980)	(16,591)	(672,571)	(1,420,452)	47.3%	(1,405,076)	47.9%

Business Unit: 510 - Martin Hanson Awards

Total Expenses	54,427	200	54,627	59,650	91.6%	59,650	91.6%
Net Operating Income\ (Expenditure)	(10,132)	(200)	(10,332)	(20,090)	51.4%	(20,090)	51.4%

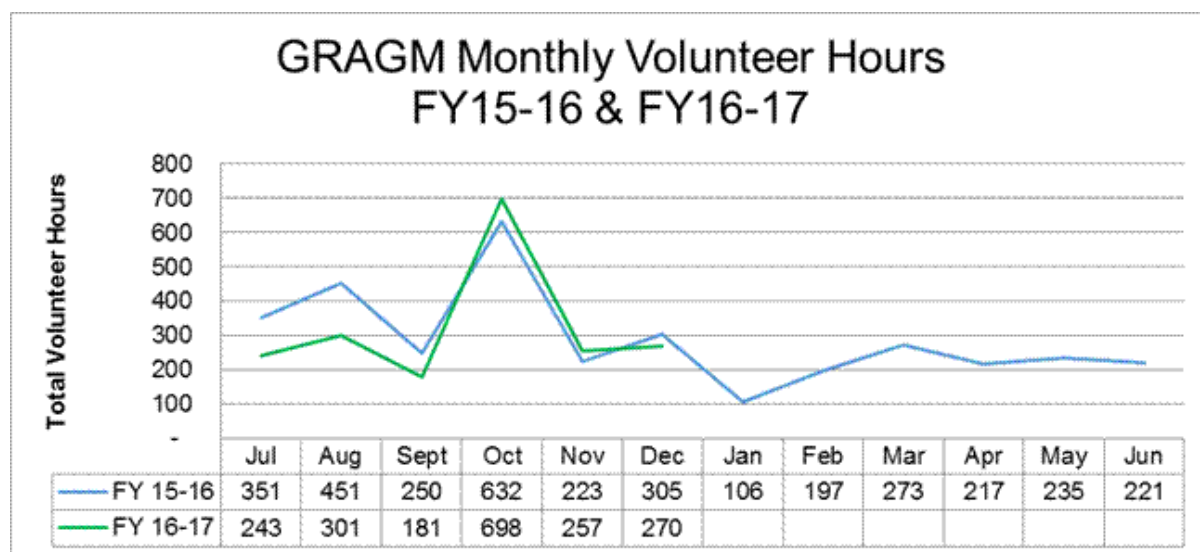
Business Unit: 615 - AGM Operations

Total Expenses	38,036	-	38,036	141,500	26.9%	141,500	26.9%
Net Operating Income\ (Expenditure)	11,964	-	11,964	(78,300)	-15.3%	(78,300)	-15.3%

Capital Works

No Capital Works for 2016-2017.

Summary:



Attachments:

1. Visitors Comments November/December 2016
2. Exhibitions and Events Images November/December 2016
3. GRAGM Website user behaviour report November//December 2016
4. Facebook Pages Report (GRAGM) November/December 2016

Tabled Items:

Nil.

Report Prepared by: Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum

ECSC/5.8. SUICIDE PREVENTION INITIATIVE - PROJECT WE CARE

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Committee Meeting Date: 24 January 2017

File Ref: CC8.2

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's direction on a funding request by the Rotary Club of Gladstone - Port Curtis for their initiative "Project We Care" which aims to strengthen the community's ability to prevent suicide.

Officer's Recommendation:

THAT:

1. Council provides one off funding of \$30,000 to the Rotary Club of Gladstone - Port Curtis for the "Project We Care" initiative,
2. The project to be funded by saving identified in the Property Services Budget, and
3. That the Club be congratulated for their efforts in making Gladstone a suicide safer community.

Background:

On 7 November 2016 Council was briefed by John Whitten and Kylie Devney, Rotary Club of Gladstone - Port Curtis, on their "Project We Care" initiative that seeks to educate/train community members in suicide prevention and intervention skills.

Consideration:

The initiative has been facilitated over the past six (6) years with the first five (5) years of the program being aimed at training specific people in Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). During that time 156 community members were trained by three (3) volunteer training officers with a psychologist leading the team and was funded by Rotary Club. The program now has nine (9) training officers to deliver the program and last year, with funding from the Gladstone Ports Corporation, 884 community members completed the training. The Rotary Club is unable to continue delivering the program at this level without additional funding.

Additionally, 70 community members have been trained in safeTALK, a 3 hour training course assisting attendees on how to identify, speak with and refer people, with thoughts of suicide, to appropriate services.

In 2016 the Club was successful in securing a one-off funding grant of \$30,000 from the Gladstone Ports Corporation to develop and deliver 12 months of the training.

Gladstone Ports Corporation policy, when providing funding from their Community Fund, is to only provide funding for a year to ensure the funding is equitable across the whole community.

Without additional funding the Club would not be able to continue the safeTALK training to the general public inclusive of approximately 700 high school students across the region but would be able to continue delivering the ASIST training, by their own fund raising. The club intends to deliver three (3) ASIST courses training up to 45 selected community members and run eight (8) safeTALK courses throughout the region, training up to 30 community members at a time, if their request for funding is successful.

Evaluations of the ASIST program and anecdotal evidence, have the program participants' feedback being positive and effective assistance. With this type of program it is difficult to accurately determine the "on the ground" effectiveness e.g. the prevention of a suicide attempt, however any program targeting the lessening of the likelihood of self-harm cannot be underestimated as "one life matters".

The Club currently provides staff training for a number of community agencies with some of those being Headspace, Roseberry Community Service, Anglicare, Salvation Army, hospital staff, police and most schools.

Communication and Consultation (Internal/External):

Council
Executive Services
Manager Community Wellbeing

Legal Environmental and Policy Implications:

Nil.

Financial and Resource Implications:

One off funding of \$30,000 - allocation to be found within the Corporate and Community Services directorate. Property Services has identified saving in its budget as the result of the Council carpenter being off on long term sick leave before resigning. This position was only filled from the start of 2017.

Commentary:

Statistics on suicide rates in individual regions are difficult to collate, however the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) show that suicide for Australia in 2015 was 12.7 per 100,000 Australians. Over the three (3) years of 2009-2012, 56 Gladstone Region residents completed suicide. With an approximate regional population of 66,000 this equates to 28 people per 100,000 which is 2.2 times the national average.

The Club believes the Gladstone Region could benefit from greater support for mental health and are seeking to train more members of the community in suicide awareness and prevention.

Summary:

The Rotary Club of Gladstone-Port Curtis is seeking \$30,000 in funding to continue their initiative "Project We Care".

Attachments:

1. Correspondence from Rotary Club of Gladstone Port Curtis, Project We Care - 31 October 2016
2. PowerPoint Presentation - "Project We Care"
3. Review of the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training Program (ASIST)

Tabled Items:

Nil.

Report Prepared by: Manager - Community Wellbeing

ECSC/6. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

ECSC/7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

ECSC/8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

ECSC/9. MEETING CLOSE

ATTACHMENTS