



LATE ITEMS ORDINARY MEETING

AGENDA

12 JULY 2016

Your attendance is required at an Ordinary meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chambers, 232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton on 12 July 2016 commencing at 9.00am for transaction of the enclosed business.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. R.", is written over a thin horizontal line.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
8 July 2016

Next Meeting Date: 26.07.16

Please note:

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, please be advised that all discussion held during the meeting is recorded for the purpose of verifying the minutes. This will include any discussion involving a Councillor, staff member or a member of the public.

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11 OFFICERS' REPORTS

11.6 INTRODUCTION OF FEE FOR MAINTENANCE OF ONSITE SEWERAGE AND GREYWATER USAGE REGISTER

File No:	4852
Attachments:	Nil
Authorising Officer:	Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services
Author:	Tarnya Fitzgibbon - Manager Development and Building

SUMMARY

Council has had the fee for onsite sewerage and greywater usage register in its fees and charges schedule since at least 2009/2010. The fee has previously not been enforced. The volume of these reports being processed now warrants the fee being enforced, to cover the cost of updating and maintaining the register.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the fee of \$64 per year be charged for processing the reports for onsite system maintenance reports and maintaining and updating the onsite sewerage and greywater use register from 1 January 2017.

BACKGROUND

Under section 143A of the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002*, Council is required to keep a register of onsite sewerage and greywater use. Council is required to update and maintain this register.

The fee for onsite sewerage and greywater use register has been in Council's fees and charges schedule since at least 2009/2010, being the first year that an electronic copy of the fees and charges schedule was available.

The Building Compliance Unit has previously tried to enforce the fee by having plumbers charge the fee to their clients and pass it on to Council. However, many of the plumbers were unwilling to undertake this process. The fee has not previously been enforced against the owner. It had previously been discussed with the Rates Unit about having the fee included on the rates notice, however, it was decided that this was not appropriate at that time. Although the fee has been included in the fees and charges schedule since 2009/2010, staff were initially not aware of the fee being included and then there were numerous changes in management of the unit, which has led to the fee not being enforced.

There are approximately 500 owners with onsite systems required to be on the register. Most of these owners are required to have the onsite maintenance reports prepared every three (3) months. These reports are required to be given to Council under section 128H of the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002*. When a report is received, one of Council's plumbing inspectors checks the report and contacts the technician if there are any issues with the report. Administrative tasks are also required to update and maintain the accuracy of the register. In addition, reminder letters are sent to owners who have not provided their reports. There are several hundred of these letters sent out per month. Prior to the fee being charges, Council will need to determine whether it will be change the fee to the owner or the technician submitting the report.

CONCLUSION

The fee for onsite sewerage and greywater use register has been included in Council's fees and charges schedule since at least 2009/2010, however, it has not previously been enforced. The volume of work involved in keeping the register up to date warrants Council enforcing the fee of \$64 per year from 1 January 2017 to enable Council time to implement the fee and provide appropriate advice to the relevant property owners.

11.7 SINGAPORE STRATEGY REPORT

File No:	1392
Attachments:	1. Singapore Economic Development Engagement Preliminary Strategy Document (in Closed Session)
Authorising Officer:	Ross Cheesman - Deputy CEO/General Manager Corporate Services
Author:	Scott Waters - Manager Airport

SUMMARY

The Rockhampton Region has a long standing, historical relationship with the Republic of Singapore. Recent upgrades to the Singapore Australia Free Trade Agreement and the signing of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership by the Australian and Singaporean Governments provide further opportunity to grow and develop the Rockhampton Region's direct relationship with Singapore.

To achieve this it is recommended that a regional working group is formed, led by Council, to develop and implement a regional strategy of engagement. The initial focus of the working group will be through maintaining and enhancing services to the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) via the Rockhampton Airport. With a broader focus to develop import/export trade and investment opportunities through the Airport and from a regional perspective commence education as well as cultural exchanges to develop people to people links as per the desired outcomes of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council commence engagement with regional stakeholders and form a working group to focus upon delivering and implementing a regional strategy relative to the joint Australian and Singapore Comprehensive Strategic Partnership as well as the recently upgraded Singapore Australia Free Trade Agreement. Furthermore that the working group is to be led by Council and include, but not be limited to representatives from Central Queensland University (CQU), Department of State Development (DSD), Regional Development Australia (RDA), Trade and Invest Queensland (TIQ) and the Capricorn Chamber of Commerce.

COMMENTARY

The working group makeup is subject to change as required by Council, with terms of reference to be established. During the working group formation phase Council will take a lead role in engaging with the State and Commonwealth Governments and as required the Singaporean Government at a departmental level.

Council does have the option to create an Advisory Committee pursuant to Division 2 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. It is thought however that a working group will create a less formal and bureaucratic approach.

BACKGROUND

The Australian and Singapore Governments made a joint declaration of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) in May 2016 after a ceremonial signing of the partnership during the Republic of Singapore's 50th Anniversary in June of 2015.

The vision of the CSP is for further co-operation and seamless economic integration between Australia and Singapore over the years ahead. To give effect to the partnership there will be particular focus on integrating our economies through trade, strengthening our defence partnership and accelerating our collaboration in innovation, science, research and technology.

This will be facilitated through the recent upgrade of the Singapore Australia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA). There are numerous elements to the announcement that will provide economic opportunities for the Rockhampton Region, however the pertinent element, is the following advice from the Commonwealth Government:

“that most immediately, this new strategic partnership will generate its own construction boom in North Queensland as local builders and engineers construct roads, accommodation and infrastructure for the Singaporean Defence Forces to conduct training exercises. This major investment will be focused around Townsville and Shoalwater Bay - helping local workers and businesses make the transition from the mining construction boom.”

The Rockhampton Region and in particular the region’s Airport has historically been the focal point for the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) while exercises have been held at the Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area (SWBMTA). This extends further to the storage of SAF equipment at the Airport site on a year round basis. In the context of the Airport it is critical that Council develops a collaborative strategy focusing upon the following:

1. Maintain the current SAF presence at the Airport;
2. Discuss the expansion of facilities and consult with the SAF, Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Australian Government’s Department of Defence (DOD) via the Airport Master Planning process;
3. Consult further with the SAF to provide a higher level of engagement and service, (this may involve some terminal and airside works); and
4. Increase utilisation of the Airport from an exercise and storage perspective via the CSP.

On a simplified flow basis specific to the Airport the recommended strategy for consideration specific to the SAF is:

Maintain / Discuss – Consult / Expand - Increase

In addition to the Airport and from a current Northern Australia policy perspective the Singapore-Northern Australia Agribusiness Development Partnership should be explored further by the working group. This partnership will involve an ongoing program of activities focused on encouraging and attracting Singaporean investment to develop Northern Australia.

The key goal for the airport in collaborating around the current policy is to deliver an integrated multi modal transport and logistics solution to facilitate international trade from the Airport.

The final element of the CSP that is recommended to form part of the terms of reference for the working group is the commitment to an Australia Singapore ongoing program of cultural activities to further develop our people to people links. ‘

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The formation of the working group supports Council’s key Economic/Regional Development Outcome of the Corporate Plan, which is to “Grow a strong, resilient and diversified economy”.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that further external and internal consultation occur on a priority basis to form the working group and develop the terms of reference. Discussions will need to be undertaken across State and Federal Government’s to advise of the Rockhampton Region’s strong desire to deliver a strategy of enhanced regional economic outcomes via the CSP/SAFTA. During this process Council will be seeking the support of the relevant Minister’s and their departments in developing and implementing the strategy.

15 CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with the provisions of section 275 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a local government may resolve to close a meeting to the public to discuss confidential items, such that its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the meeting be closed to the public to discuss the following items, which are considered confidential in accordance with section 275 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, for the reasons indicated.

16.4 Update on Upcoming Event

This report is considered confidential in accordance with section 275(1)(h), of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to 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.

16 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

16.4 UPDATE ON UPCOMING EVENT

File No: 6097

Attachments:

1. Proposed Event Particulars
2. Image of Entire Proposed Route
3. Image of Section 1 of Proposed Route
4. Image of Section 2 of Proposed Route
5. Image of Section 3 of Proposed Route

Authorising Officer: Russell Claus - Executive Manager Regional Development
Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

Author: Sarah Reeves - Manager Regional Promotions

This report is considered confidential in accordance with section 275(1)(h), of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to 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.

SUMMARY

Manager Regional Promotions to present a confidential briefing to Councillors regarding an upcoming event.