

Gympie Regional Council

Environment Strategy

January 2012 - 2017



"Gympie Regional Council is committed to responsible environmental management, sustainability and stewardship of the Region".



Mayor's Message



The future of our Region's natural assets is in our hands. The Gympie Regional Council area is one of diversity; it has a wide range of topography, changing demographics and industry.

The balance between growth and development across the Gympie Region and environmental sustainability is a challenge that must be faced and managed accordingly.

Council is committed to responsible environmental management, sustainability and stewardship of the Gympie Region, so that the future generations can continue to enjoy our enviable lifestyle and environment.

The strategies outlined in this document will preserve and enhance the natural environment, reduce our ecological footprint; raise awareness of best practice land management; facilitate planned improvements to Council owned and managed properties; minimise waste in the Region and utilise the Region's water sustainably.

As part of Gympie Regional Council's ongoing commitment to environmental best practice and continuous improvement of its environmental performance and in accordance with its Environmental Policy, funding from the 2009/2010 Environment and Natural Resource Levy was allocated to develop this Environment Strategy.

I commend the Environment Strategy and take this opportunity to thank all who contributed to the development and publication of this document – all key stakeholders striving toward the ongoing betterment of our Region.

Cr Ron Dyne

Mayor

November 2011



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INTRODUCTION

Council is committed to responsible environmental management, sustainability and stewardship of the Gympie Region and will seek to achieve this by continually improving its operational standards, training staff and educating the community.

VISION

Council's strategies for achieving the vision are:

- preserving and enhancing the natural environment;
- reducing our ecological footprint;
- raising awareness of sustainable land management practices through education;
- systematic planned improvements to Council owned and managed properties;
- minimising waste in the Gympie Region; and
- ensuring that the region's water is used sustainably.

PURPOSE OF THE ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

To establish an Environment Strategy for Gympie Regional Council that will guide Council into the future to undertake the following:

- improve the protection of the natural environment;
- increase the awareness of the changing environment; and put in place a system for Council to reduce its ecological footprint;
- promote a shared responsibility for the natural environment;
- improve Council's operations and management of its properties;
- minimise waste and promote recycling and reuse;
- improve the quality of the water in the natural environment;
- to develop action plans for each environmental theme relating to Council operations; and
- will provide a system to monitor and evaluate the performance of the Environment Strategy and Action Plans.

THE STRATEGY

WHY DOES GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL NEED AN ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY?

As part of Gympie Regional Council's ongoing commitment to environmental best practice and continuous improvement of its environmental performance, and in accordance with its Environmental Policy, funding from the 2009/2010 Environment and Natural Resource Levy has been allocated to develop this Environment Strategy.

LINKS TO COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

The Environment Strategy is aimed at Council operations and is driven by:

- The Gympie Region Community Plan; and
- The Gympie Regional Council Corporate Plan.

The Environment Strategy is supported by the:

- The Gympie Regional Council Operational Plan;
- The Planning Scheme; and
- Council's Environmental Policy.

The development of an Environment Strategy will help to fulfil the requirements stated in Council's Environmental Policy: *"Council will endeavour to develop, adopt, implement and regularly review an environmental strategy and an environmental management system to ensure ecological sustainability is achieved"*.

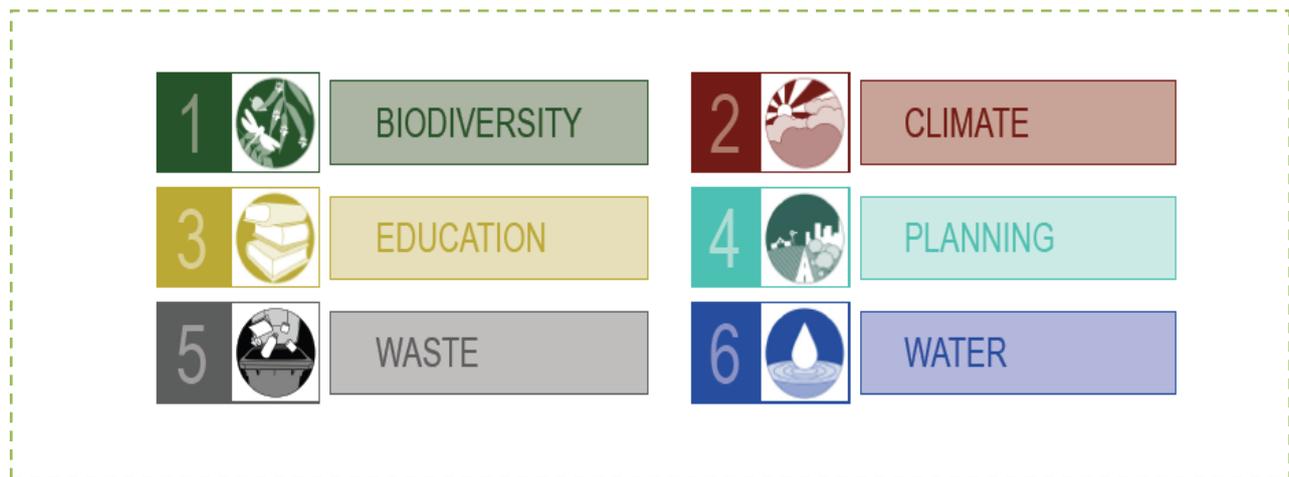
LINKS TO GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION

Gympie Regional Council is committed to implementing all requirements outlined in Commonwealth and State environmental legislation, policies and standards.

THEMES

ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY THEMES

The Environment Strategy will focus on six (6) themes, namely:



KEY TO ACTION PLAN

Responsibility/Potential Partner

CORPCOMM – Corporate and Community Services
CORP – Corporate Governance
DEV - Development and Compliance Branch
ENG – Engineering Services
H&ES – Health & Environmental Services
INF – Infrastructure Services
P&D – Planning and Development
OOTC – Office of the CEO
OOTM – Office of the Mayor

Indicative Budget Implications

Low – Low budget \$0 – 10,000
Medium – Medium budget \$10,000 - \$50,000
High – High budget \$50,000 +

Potential Partners Non Gympie Regional Council

AUST GOV – Australian Government
BMRG – Burnett Mary Regional Group
DAFF – Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DEHP – Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
DNRM – Department of Natural Resources and Mines
HERB – Queensland Herbarium
MRCCC – Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee
NRM Groups – Natural Resource Management Groups
PFSQ – Private Forestry Southern Qld
RSPCA – Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Priority

1 – Delivered within 12 months
2 – Delivered within 24 months
3 – Delivered within 36 months
4 – Delivered within 48 months
5 – Delivered within 60 months
6 – Further investigation required



Biodiversity “to preserve and enhance the natural environment”

Council will seek preservation and enhancement of the natural environment by (see appendix one):

- Working with government and non-government agencies in the Gympie Region to enhance the local environment;
- Raising the awareness of the importance of native flora and fauna species within the Gympie Region;
- Ensuring that Council has current and relevant mapping in relation to the environment and for planning scheme purposes;
- Preparing environmental policies and plans to assist in the protection of biodiversity in the Gympie Region; and
- Valuing the natural environment.



Climate “to reduce our ecological footprint”

Council will seek to reduce its ecological footprint by (see appendix two):

- Providing leadership and demonstrating a commitment to work towards achieving best practice;
- Increasing the awareness regarding sustainable working and living practices;
- Maintaining an awareness of national initiatives; and
- Encouraging the efficient use of energy and the use of renewable energy.



Education “to raise awareness of sustainable land management practices”

Council will seek to raise awareness of sustainable land management practices by (see appendix three):

- Increasing the awareness regarding the protection and preservation of the regions natural environment;
- Providing information to the community about Council’s environmental services and activities; and
- Providing information to assist in the conservation of water and the protection of natural waterways.



Planning “systematic planned improvements to Council owned and managed properties”

Council will undertake systematic planned improvements to Council owned and managed properties by (see appendix four):

- Identifying properties in the Gympie Region that are environmentally significant;
- Preparing Property Management Plans for environmentally significant Council properties;
- Preserving, protecting and enhancing environmentally significant properties within the Gympie Region;
- Educating staff; and
- Protecting the vulnerable coastal areas.



Waste “to minimise waste in the Gympie Region”

Council will seek to minimise waste in the Gympie Region by (see appendix five):

- Preparing and following policy and plans to guide Council in waste reduction;
- Minimising or recycling the waste that Council manages; and
- Minimising and educating about waste particularly waste directly affecting flora and fauna.



Water “to ensure that the Region’s water is used sustainably”

Council will seek to ensure that the Region’s water is used sustainably by (see appendix six):

- Minimising water consumption;
- Protecting public health, safety and the environment;
- Protecting and where necessary improving the quality of water in the natural environment;
- Operating all systems so that wastes are collected and treated in a safe, efficient and environmentally conscious manner;
- Managing the reuse or disposal of sludge without any detrimental environmental effects; and
- Optimising the use of energy and other resources.

Appendix One



BIODIVERSITY “to preserve and enhance the natural environment”

ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
ENSURE THAT STAFF IS AWARE OF CURRENT LEGISLATION, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO THE ENVIRONMENT.	That staff are up-to-date with current legislation.	ENG, H&ES, INF, P&D	Aust Gov, DEHP, DNRM	Low	On-going
INVESTIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL OFFSETS.	Report prepared for Council regarding an appropriate policy if warranted, following research into offsets.	P&D	DNRM	Low	2
INVESTIGATE OPTIONS TO IMPROVE THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN WORKS/ROAD MAINTENANCE STAFF AND LAND PROTECTION STAFF IN REGARD TO IDENTIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION OF DECLARED WEEDS.	Options to improve collaboration investigated. New measures in place.	INF		Low	On-going
START AN ON-GOING PROGRAMME OF EDUCATION AND REFRESHER SESSIONS TO INFORM STAFF OF THE BENEFITS OF PROTECTING NATIVE FLORA AND FAUNA SPECIES. INCLUDE ENDANGERED, VULNERABLE AND NEAR THREATENED FLORA AND FAUNA SPECIES.	Education programme commenced.	INF	P&D	Med	On-going
UNDERTAKE WORKSHOPS WITH OUTDOOR STAFF TO EDUCATE THEM ON HOW TO IDENTIFY ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS IN THE GYMPIE REGION THAT THEY MAY COME ACROSS WHILE UNDERTAKING THEIR DAILY WORK ACTIVITIES.	Workshops held with outdoor staff.	INF	P&D	Med	2
UPDATE AND EXPAND THE REGIONAL ECOSYSTEM FLORA SPECIES LISTS FOR THE GYMPIE REGION.	Regional ecosystem list updated and used by staff when necessary for plantings and re-vegetation projects.	P&D	BMRG, HERB	Med	1
FLORA SPECIES LISTS CREATED FOR SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE GYMPIE REGION.	Flora species lists selected to be created that are commonly used by staff (wetland planting and foreshore planting, for example). Lists prepared and used by staff when necessary.	P&D	HERB	Med	2
DEVELOP A GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL ‘COASTAL EDITION’ BOOKLET – A GUIDE TO WEEDS OF SIGNIFICANCE AND LOCAL NATIVE ALTERNATIVES.	Booklet developed and distributed.	P&D	INF, NRM Groups	Low	1
DEVELOP A SIMPLE VERSION OF THE ‘A GUIDE TO WEEDS OF SIGNIFICANCE AND LOCAL NATIVE ALTERNATIVES’ BOOKLETS TO BE PLACED ON COUNCIL’S WEBSITE.	Web version developed and placed on Council’s website.	P&D	CORP	Low	3

Appendix One

BIODIVERSITY “to preserve and enhance the natural environment”



ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
SET UP AN INTERNAL NRM WORKING GROUP TO MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY ACTIVITIES.	Internal NRM Working Group established.	P&D	ALL GRC	Low	1
RE-ESTABLISH THE EXTERNAL NRM WORKING GROUP MEETINGS.	NRM Working Group re-structured and group re-established.	P&D		Low	2
DEVELOP A COMMUNICATION STRATEGY TO ASSIST IN IMPROVING PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL NRM GROUPS.	Communication Strategy developed.	P&D	INF, NRM Groups	Low-med	3
START A REGIONAL COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT GROUP.	Hold discussions with staff to determine interest and necessity. Contact surrounding regional Council’s to determine their interest. Group set up if required.	P&D	ALL GRC, neighbouring Council’s	Low	1

Appendix Two



CLIMATE “to reduce our ecological footprint”

ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
UNDERTAKE AN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE THE BENEFITS OF USING RECYCLED (GREEN) PRODUCTS COMPARED TO USING NON-RECYCLED PRODUCTS.	Investigation undertaken. Report prepared for Council.	CORP		Low	2
INVESTIGATE BUYING AUSTRALIAN PLANTATION GROWN PAPER.	Australian grown plantation paper purchased if viable.	CORPCOMM		Low – med	2
INVESTIGATE IMPLEMENTING A PROCUREMENT POLICY FOR ‘GREEN PRODUCTS’.	Procurement policy investigated.	CORPCOMM		Low – med	2
INVESTIGATE THE BENEFITS TO COUNCIL OF JOINING THE ‘CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION’ PROGRAM.	The Cities for Climate Protection program investigated. Report prepared for Council if warranted.	P&D		Low	2
UNDERTAKE AN ENERGY AUDIT OF COUNCIL OWNED PUBLIC BUILDINGS.	Energy audit undertaken.	CORP, ENG		Med	5
INVESTIGATE, PLAN AND BUDGET TOWARDS TRANSITION SWITCHING TO ENERGY EFFICIENT PRODUCTS IN COUNCIL OWNED BUILDINGS.	Transition towards energy efficient products commenced.	CORP	CORPCOMM, P&D	Low, med and high	5
INVESTIGATE PURCHASING GREEN POWER OR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SYSTEMS (FOR EXAMPLE SOLAR PANELS, INTERACTIVE GRID) FOR COUNCIL OWNED BUILDINGS.	Alternative energy sources investigated for Council owned buildings.	CORP/ENG		Low	5
UNDERTAKE A ‘SWITCH-OFF POWER SOURCE’ CAMPAIGN FOR STAFF.	‘Switch off power source’ campaign started.	OOTC	CORP	Low	2
INVESTIGATE PILOT CARBON SEQUESTRATION OPPORTUNITIES ON COUNCIL LAND TO DETERMINE VIABILITY AND FOR FUTURE POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS.	Carbon sequestration opportunities investigated. Viability and future potential partners identified.	INF	PFSQ, P&D	Med	2
INVESTIGATE ENERGY EFFICIENT STREET LIGHTING FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS CODE AND POLICY.	Energy efficient street lighting investigated. Incorporated into the Infrastructure Works Code and Policy if found feasible.	ENG	ENERGEX, ERGON, P&D	Low – med	2
CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN COUNCIL’S FLEET MANAGEMENT PLAN.	Environmental issues in Council’s Fleet Management Plan considered and any identified improvements implemented.	INF		Low	3
DEVELOP ENERGY INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS AND ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW INDUSTRIES WITHIN THE REGION.	Partnerships developed.	OOTC		Low	On-going
COORDINATE WITH SURROUNDING COUNCIL’S WITH RESPECT TO CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ACTION.	Meetings held with surrounding Council’s. Relevant information used to educate and inform Council staff and residents.	P&D	OOTC, OOTM	Low	6



Appendix Three



EDUCATION “to raise awareness of sustainable land management practices ”

ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
PREPARE AND PRESENT DISCUSSION PAPERS FOR COUNCILLORS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.	Discussion papers prepared and presented to Councillors.	P&D		Low	3
INCREASE STAFF AWARENESS ON ENDANGERED, VULNERABLE AND NEAR THREATENED FLORA AND FAUNA SPECIES.	Staff awareness of endangered, vulnerable and near threatened species increased.	P&D	BMRG, DEHP, DNRM, MRCCC	Low	3
DEVELOP A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES FOR USE IN COUNCIL’S REGIONAL ROUNDUP.	Articles developed for the Regional Roundup.	OOTC	CORPCOMM, H&ES, P&D	Low	On-going
CONDUCT A FULL INTER-DIRECTORATE REVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTENT DISPLAYED ON COUNCIL’S WEBSITE AS PART OF THE WEBSITE UPDATE.	Environmental content review and updated.	CORP	ALL GRC	Low-med	2
DEVOTE A WHOLE PAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT ON COUNCIL’S WEBSITE THAT CAN BE DIRECTLY ACCESSED FROM THE HOME PAGE.	Environment page created that links directly to the home page of Council’s website.	CORP	H&ES, INF, P&D	Low	5
DEVELOP A PROGRAM FOR ENSURING WEEDS/WEED SEEDS ARE NOT TRANSPORTED ON COUNCIL VEHICLES.	Program developed and implemented.	INF		Med	2
CONTINUE UNDERTAKING THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ON REDUCING DECLARED WEEDS. COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES FOR DECLARED WEEDS ARE IDENTIFIED IN COUNCIL’S CURRENT PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN.	Educational program continued.	INF	DAFF, NRM groups	Low - med	On-going
THE REGION WIDE PEST MAPPING BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE LAND PROTECTION STAFF IS TO BE UTILISED WHERE RELEVANT BY OTHER DIRECTORATES.	Mapping used by other directorates where necessary.	INF		Low	On-going
SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ON REDUCING PEST ANIMALS. COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES FOR PEST ANIMALS ARE IDENTIFIED IN COUNCIL’S CURRENT PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN.	Support for educational programs continued.	INF		Low	On-going
CONTINUE THE COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM ON THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF POOR DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT INCLUDING THE DUMPING OF UNWANTED PETS.	Community education program continued.	CORPCOMM	RSPCA	Low	On-going
PURCHASE THE ‘SUSTAINABLE LIVING GUIDE’ FROM THE NATURAL STRATEGIES GROUP AND ADD TO COUNCIL’S WEBSITE.	The Sustainable Living Guide is purchased and added to Council’s website.	P&D		Low	1
INCLUDE LINKS TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES SUCH AS SOLAR REBATES.	Links included on Council’s website.	CORP	P&D	Low	5
INVESTIGATE THE OPTION OF COUNCIL PARTICIPATING IN AND WORKING WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES TO PROMOTE AND PARTICIPATE IN THE ECO-BIZ PROGRAM.	Eco-Biz program investigated.	OOTC		Low	1

Appendix Three

EDUCATION “to raise awareness of sustainable land management practices”



ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE EARTH HOUR.	Support and promotion of Earth Hour continued.	OOTC, OOTM	CORP	Low	On-going
ENSURE ALL NEW DATA SETS ARE PROVIDED TO GIS SERVICES FOR UPLOADING ONTO COUNCIL’S MAPPING SYSTEM.	New data set provided to GIS Services.	ALL GRC		Low	On-going
COMPILE GARDEN WASTE FACT SHEETS AND DISTRIBUTE. INCLUDE INFORMATION ON WEED ISSUES, LANDFILL, ALTERNATIVES/INCENTIVES FOR RESIDENTS, GOOD PRACTICES, AND SEEK OUT EXISTING RESOURCES.	Garden waste fact sheets compiled and distributed.	H&ES	Cleaning contractor, INF, NRM groups	Low	3
DISSEMINATING FACT SHEETS ON THE BENEFITS OF COMPOSTING AND HAVING A WORM FARM AT HOME.	Fact sheets distributed.	H&ES	Cleaning contractor	Low	On-going
REVIEW AND UPDATE THE INFORMATION THAT IS PROVIDED ABOUT RECYCLING IN THE RATES INFORMATION BOOKLET.	Information reviewed and updated.	H&ES	Cleaning contractor	Low	2
REVIEW AND UPDATE THE INFORMATION ON COUNCIL’S WEBSITE ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF RECYCLING.	Information reviewed and update.	H&ES	Cleaning contractor	Low	2
IDENTIFY KEY SITES, SUCH AS REGIONAL RECREATIONAL AREAS AND INVESTIGATE INSTALLATION OF ANTI-LITTER SIGNAGE.	Key sites identified. Installation of anti-litter signage explored.	H&ES	INF, Schools	Low – med	5
PROVIDE SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY GROUPS WISHING TO UNDERTAKE EVENTS SUCH AS ‘CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY’ ON COUNCIL OWNED AND MANAGED PROPERTIES.	Support provided to community groups.	H&ES	OOTC	Low	On-going
PROMOTE GOOD PRACTICES IN RELATION TO RESPONSIBLE DISPOSAL OF LIQUID WASTE.	Good practices promoted using existing Council information pamphlets and Council’s Public Relations Staff.	ENG	OOTC	Low	On-going
DEVELOP PAMPHLETS TO EDUCATE THE RESIDENTS OF THE GYMPIE REGION ON ‘HOW THE SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT WORKS’.	Pamphlets developed and distributed to residents.	ENG		Low	1
INVESTIGATE METHODS TO EDUCATE RESIDENTS IN THE GYMPIE REGION OF THE IMPACT LITTERING HAS ON OUR RIVER SYSTEMS – “WHAT GOES DOWN THE STORMWATER DRAIN, GOES INTO OUR RIVERS”.	Education methods investigated.	ENG		Low	2
CONTINUE TRAINING STAFF IN REGARDS TO WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN.	Staff training continued.	ENG, INF	P&D	Med	On-going
PROMOTE THE <i>WATERWISE</i> PROGRAM.	The <i>Waterwise</i> program is promoted in the Gympie Region.	ENG	OOTC	Low	On-going

Appendix Four



PLANNING “systematic planned improvements to Council owned and managed properties”

ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
PREPARE AN IBIS MANAGEMENT PLAN.	Ibis Management Plan prepared.	P&D	DEHP, H&ES, INF	Low - med	1
IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES IN THE IBIS MANAGEMENT PLAN.	Ibis Management Plan implemented.	P&D	DEHP, H&ES, INF	Low - med	2
INVESTIGATE PREPARING A ‘SPOTTER CATCHER POLICY’ FOR COUNCIL OPERATIONS.	Spotter Catcher Policy investigated.	P&D	INF	Med	2
PARTICIPATE WHERE RELEVANT IN ACTIONS FOR STATE AND FEDERAL RECOVERY PLANS REGARDING FLORA AND FAUNA.	Participation in relevant action plans.	ALL GRC		Low	On-going
DEVELOPMENT OF A SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER FOR COUNCIL CONTROLLED PROPERTY IN THE GYMPIE REGION.	Significant Tree Register developed.	INF	P&D	Low	1
IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES TO PROVIDE AND IMPLEMENT A SCHEME OF RIPARIAN ZONE IMPROVEMENTS ON COUNCIL LAND.	Opportunities identified and plan implemented.	P&D	INF	Low	3
INTERIM ASSESSMENTS UNDERTAKEN ON COUNCIL PROPERTIES BEFORE CLEARING TAKES PLACE, TO DETERMINE IF THERE ARE VEGETATION SIGNIFICANT ISSUES.	Assessment procedures in place.	P&D	ENG, INF	Low	2
IDENTIFY, AND MAP THE COUNCIL PROPERTIES THAT REQUIRE FIRE REGIMES PREPARED FOR ECOLOGICAL PURPOSES AND MAINTENANCE.	Properties identified and mapped.	P&D	INF	Med	3
UNDERTAKE A REVIEW OF THE LEASING ARRANGEMENTS, PARTICULARLY IN REGARDS TO INTERNAL REFERRAL PROCEDURES ON ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT PROPERTIES.	Leasing arrangements reviewed.	CORP	P&D	Med	2
UNDERTAKE A DESKTOP REVIEW TO PRIORITISE COUNCIL’S ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT PROPERTIES.	Desktop review undertaken.	P&D	INF	Low	1
PREPARE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR COUNCIL’S ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT PROPERTIES.	Property Management Plans prepared.	P&D	INF	Med	1
UNDERTAKE INVESTIGATIONS INTO PASSIVE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT PROPERTIES.	Passive recreation opportunities investigated.	P&D	CORP	Low	4
IDENTIFY PROPERTIES IN THE GYMPIE REGION THAT ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT WHICH MAY BE SUITABLE TO PURCHASE.	Properties identified that are environmentally significant; this includes properties with links for corridors and potential for passive recreation.	P&D		Low	2
INVESTIGATE THE ADVANTAGES OF USING A PERCENTAGE OF COUNCIL’S ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE LEVY TO PURCHASE ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT PROPERTIES IN THE GYMPIE REGION.	Advantages determined and a report prepared for Council. Properties purchased if supported by Council.	P&D	CORP	Low, med and high	3

Appendix Four



PLANNING “systematic planned improvements to Council owned and managed properties”

ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
REFINE COUNCIL’S ENVIRONMENT LEVY POLICY TO AUDIT THE PAYMENTS PROVIDED TO COMMUNITY GROUPS FOR WORKS UNDERTAKEN ON COUNCIL PROPERTIES.	Environment Levy Policy refined.	P&D		Low	2
CREATE A SYSTEM TO MONITOR THE OUTCOMES OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE LEVY PROJECTS FOLLOWING REFINEMENT OF POLICY.	Monitoring system created and in place.	P&D	INF	Low	2
INVESTIGATE PREPARING A ROADSIDE VEGETATION CONSERVATION PLAN.	Investigations undertaken.	P&D	INF	Low	1
CREATE A ROADSIDE VEGETATION CONSERVATION PLAN IF NECESSARY.	Plan created, adopted and implemented.	P&D	INF	Low - med	3
EXPLORE NEW METHODS OF CONTROLLING NON-DECLARED (BUT STILL INVASIVE) WEEDS FROM ROAD RESERVE AREAS.	Research into new methods undertaken.	INF	DAFF	Low	2
FINALISE THE REVIEW OF THE WORKS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.	Review of the Plan finalised.	INF	P&D	Low	2
CONDUCT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN TRAINING SESSIONS FOR RELEVANT STAFF.	Training sessions held.	INF	OOTC	Med	3
CONTINUE ADHERENCE TO COUNCIL’S ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN RELEVANT TO EACH DIRECTORATE.	Adherence to the Environmental Management Plan continued.	ALL GRC		Low	On-going
UNDERTAKE AN ANNUAL AUDIT PROCESS IN REGARD TO STAFF ADHERENCE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANS.	Audit undertaken.	ALL GRC		Low	On-going
INVESTIGATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES OPERATIONS.	Environmental Management Plan development investigated.	CORPCOMM		Low	3
CONTINUE THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING OF STAFF IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DIRECTORATE.	Staff training continued.	INF	OOTC	Med	On-going
ENSURE THAT SITE SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANS ARE PRODUCED FOR MAJOR CAPITAL AND REFURBISHMENT WORKS.	Site specific Environmental Management Plans produced.	INF		Med - high	On-going
SEEK TO EMPLOY AN ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DIRECTORATE.	Environmental Officer employed if supported by Council	INF		High	6
INVESTIGATE THE COST OF UNDERTAKING A CONDITION ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE COAST.	Cost of undertaking a condition assessment report for the coast investigated.	P&D	DEHP	Low	1
INVESTIGATE THE COST OF DEVELOPING A SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN.	Cost of developing a shoreline erosion management plan investigated.	P&D	DEHP, ENG, INF	Low	1
FINALISE THE FORESHORE MANAGEMENT PLAN.	Foreshore Management Plan finalised.	P&D	DEHP, INF	Med	2

Appendix Five

WASTE “to minimise waste in the Gympie Region”



ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
DEVELOP A POLICY AND STRATEGY FOR RECYCLING WITHIN THE COUNCIL BUILDINGS.	Policy and strategy developed and adopted.	CORP	H&ES	Low-med	2
INVESTIGATE THE OPTION OF USING RECYCLED PLASTIC ITEMS FOR PARKS AMENITIES.	Research continued into the use of plastic items for park amenities.	INF		Low	On-going
INVESTIGATE THE OPTION OF RECYCLING WATER FOR EXTERNAL OPERATIONS.	Recycling water for external operations investigated.	INF		Low	2
INSTALL FISHING LINE RECOVERY BINS AT POPULAR FISHING LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE GYMPIE REGION.	Fishing line recovery bins installed.	INF	OceanWatch, P&D	Low	1
INVESTIGATE THE SUCCESS OF DETERRENT CAMPAIGNS SUCH AS ‘DOB IN A DUMPER’.	Campaign investigated. Report to Council if program is a success in other local government areas.	H&ES		Low	4
IDENTIFY KEY ILLEGAL RUBBISH DUMPING SITES REQUIRING MANAGEMENT.	Key sites identified.	H&ES	INF	Low	5
A REGIONAL WASTE STRATEGY IS BEING PRODUCED THAT WILL DETERMINE THE FUTURE OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR THE WHOLE REGION INCLUDING INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCATION, COLLECTION AND TRANSFER.	Regional Waste Strategy produced.	OOTC		Med	1
LIAISE WITH OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ENERGY PROVIDERS IN REGARDS TO THE USE OF GAS FLARING/CAPTURE TECHNOLOGY. THIS MAY BE SUITABLE FOR FUTURE LANDFILL SITES.	Liaison with other local governments and energy providers undertaken.	H&ES	Energy providers	Low	6
DEVELOP POST CLOSURE PLANS FOR LANDFILLS.	Post closure plans developed when necessary.	H&ES		Med	On-going
INVESTIGATE ALTERNATIVE WASTE TECHNOLOGIES; FOR EXAMPLE COMPOSTING AND INCREASING QUALITY CONTROL.	Alternative waste technologies investigated	H&ES		Low	3
CONTINUE TO LOOK INTO PLANNING CONTROLS TO REGULATE MULCHING ONSITE AT DEVELOPMENTS WHEN CLEARING TAKES PLACE.	Planning controls continued to be explored.	H&ES	DEV	Low	On-going
COUNCIL TO UNDERTAKE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMS ON AGRICULTURAL/CHEMICAL WASTE IN THE COMMUNITY.	Education and awareness programs undertaken.	H&ES		Low	2
ENSURE THAT THE ‘TRADE WASTE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN’ IS IN PLACE AND UPDATED.	Trade Waste Environmental Management Plan in place and updated.	ENG		Med	5
ENSURE THAT PROCESSES FOR THE TREATMENT AND RE-USE/DISPOSAL OF REGULATED WASTE ARE COMPLIANT WITH INDUSTRY STANDARDS.	Processes comply with industry standards.	ENG	DNRM, DEHP	Med	On-going

Appendix Five

WASTE “to minimise waste in the Gympie Region”



ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
INVESTIGATE AND EVALUATE SLUDGE AND BIOSOLID REUSE AND DISPOSAL OPTIONS.	Sludge and biosolid reuse and disposal options investigated and evaluated.	ENG		Med	3
INVESTIGATE CIGARETTE BUTT LITTERING CAMPAIGNS, SUCH AS ‘NOT A GOOD LOOK’.	Campaigns investigated.	H&ES	INF, NRM Groups	Low	4
INVESTIGATE SMOKING ‘HOT SPOTS’. SOURCE AESTHETIC CIGARETTE BINS, SUCH AS ‘BUTT OUT BINS’.	Hot spots investigated. Aesthetic cigarette bins sourced.	H&ES	INF	Low	4
INVESTIGATE TREE PLANTING PROGRAMS WITHIN AND SURROUNDING LANDFILL SITES. PLANTINGS NEED TO MAXIMISE ENVIRONMENT POTENTIAL, MULTIPLE TARGETS, BENEFITS, COMMUNITY VALUES AND OUTCOMES.	Tree planting programs explored.	H&ES	P&D	Low	5

Appendix Six

WATER “to ensure that the Region’s water is used sustainably”



ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE TARGET/MEASURE	RESPONSIBILITY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	INDICATIVE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	PRIORITY
PRODUCE AND ADOPT A ‘TOTAL WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT PLAN’ (INCLUDES SEWERAGE MANAGEMENT, URBAN STORM WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND TRADE WASTE MANAGEMENT).	Total Water Cycle Management Plan produced and adopted.	ENG		Med	2
IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ‘TOTAL WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT PLAN’.	Recommendations in the Total Water Cycle Management Plan implemented.	ENG		Low, med and high	5
INVESTIGATE AND DETERMINE APPROPRIATE METHODS OF STORM WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY MANAGEMENT, EROSION CONTROL AND POLLUTANT TREATMENT.	Methods investigated. Installation of devices where appropriate.	ENG		Low, med and high	On-going
INVESTIGATE AND PROGRAM LOCATIONS FOR TREE PLANTING AT OR NEAR THE WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SITES.	Tree plantings investigated and locations selected.	ENG	P&D	Low	1
INVESTIGATE AND IMPLEMENT COST EFFECTIVE WATER SAVINGS STRATEGIES.	Water savings strategies investigated and implemented.	ENG		Low - med	1
GRADUALLY REPLACE INFRASTRUCTURE WITH WATER EFFICIENT ALTERNATIVES.	Infrastructure replaced with water efficient alternatives.	ENG		Low, med and high	5
APPLY FOR GRANTS WHEN AVAILABLE FOR WATER EFFICIENCY SYSTEMS FOR PLAYING FIELDS.	Grants applied for.	INF		Low	On-going
REVIEW CURRENT PRACTICES IN RELATION TO PARK PLANNING AND INVESTIGATE INCORPORATING WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN TO PARKS.	Current practices reviewed. Incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design into park planning investigated.	INF		Low - med	2

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