

## **2A           MATTERS FOR BRIEF MENTION, PLANNING & REGULATORY SERVICES**

**REPORTING SECTION:**     Planning & Regulatory Services  
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**FILE NUMBER:**           10/434

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This report provides notes on items for brief mention, or information only, on more significant matters arising in the Planning & Regulatory Services Division in the period from February to March 2012.

**a) DRAFT WALGETT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011**

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure has issued a conditional section 65 certificate to enable the draft Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2011 to be publicly exhibited. The conditions require amended maps to be prepared prior to public exhibition commencing.

**b) REGULATORY OFFICER**

Council's Regulatory Officer has been on leave since 13-12-2011. Narrabri Council supplied a relieving regulatory officer for two occasions early in 2012, but have advised that they do not have staff available for the foreseeable future. Advertising will commence soon for a casual Regulatory Officer, with a view to maintaining regulatory services.

**c) DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR WALGETT POLICE STATION – DA2011/017**

A Development Application assessment report was completed by the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services for the new Walgett Police station. This report has been submitted to the Western Region Joint Planning Panel (JRPP), which is the consent authority for this application.

Because the proposal is a Crown development, consent has been sought from the applicant for the proposed development consent conditions. A significant proposed condition is a requirement for the developer to make a contribution to 75% of the costs incurred by Walgett Shire Council in upgrading Dundas St to cope with the increased traffic expected to result from the development. Discussions are in progress with the applicant regarding cost estimates for this work.

**d) REVIEW OF ANIMAL EUTHANASIA ARRANGEMENTS**

A review of companion animal euthanasia arrangements was recently conducted, which showed that:

- It is important to ensure that the form of euthanasia applied is humane. Humane in this context is normally defined as instantaneous or near instantaneous death.
- Council's in the region use invariably shooting or lethobarb (green dream) injection.
- Carbon dioxide is also commonly used for the destruction of animals in other contexts, but this is not instantaneous, hence has not been considered this as an option for Walgett Shire Council.
- Four out of five Council's (80%) contacted use shooting.
- It is not uncommon for problems to arise from injections including incorrect dosages, or not being able to locate an appropriate vein, which then creates unnecessary distress for animals and staff. These problems arise even if the person administering the lethobarb is a vet.

- Shooting has a far higher rate of success on the first attempt when compared to injection. It is very rare for a competent person to not be successful with a restrained dog or cat.
- Skills for shooting are more readily available and/or learnt, while the equipment is also more readily available.
- Most of the staff contacted who are directly involved in animal euthanasia perceive that shooting is more respectful, humane and/or safer than lethabarb injections.

As a result of the review it was decided to maintain shooting as Walgett Shire Council's preferred method of euthanising companion animals.

**e) SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & BUILDING SURVEYOR**

Council's Senior Environmental Health and Building Surveyor, Andrew Wilson, recently applied for A2 accreditation with the NSW Building Professionals Board.

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>AUTHORITIES</b>
A1 Building Surveying Grade 1	Issue CDCs, CCs and OCs for all classes and sizes of buildings. Undertake all critical stage inspections.
<b>A2</b> <b>Building</b> <b>Surveying Grade</b> <b>2</b>	<b>Issue CDCs, CCs and OCs for:</b> <b>(a) Class 1 &amp; 10 buildings.</b> <b>(b) Class 2 to 9 buildings, maximum 3 storeys and maximum floor area 2,000m<sup>2</sup>.</b> <b>Undertake critical stage inspections associated with (a) and (b).</b>
A3 Building Surveying Grade 3	Issue CDCs, CCs and OCs for class 1 & 10 buildings and undertake critical stage inspections for those classes of buildings.
A4 Building Inspector	Inspections, apart from last critical stage inspection, of: (a) Class 1 & 10 buildings. (b) Class 2 to 9 buildings, maximum 2 storeys and maximum floor area 500m <sup>2</sup> .

Note: CDC – Complying Development Certificate  
CC – Construction Certificate  
OC – Occupation Certificate

<b>Matters Generally for Brief Mention or Information only from Director of Planning &amp; Regulatory Services</b>
<p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>1. That the report by the Director of Planning &amp; Regulatory Services on matters for brief mention, or information only, be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> <b>Seconded:</b></p>

Attachments:

Nil