



general
purpose
committee

1
section

environment

GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENT

Table of Contents

Meeting Date: 26 March 2002

Page 2

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE
-------------	----------------	-------------

SECTION 1 - ENVIRONMENT.

30:	Regional Illegal Dumping (RID) Squad Future Commitment and Funding by Council	
	GW010/033/EVD/ENC26LBX.V15	3

oooO END OF TABLE OF CONTENTS Oooo

ITEM: 30 Regional Illegal Dumping (RID) Squad Future Commitment and Funding by Council**FILE NUMBER:** GW010/033/EVD/ENC26LBX.V15

REPORT:

The current Management Plan of Council requires a review of the RID Squad activities, and Council's future commitment to the program to be reported before the next budget is compiled.

During recent meetings of the Steering Committee for the RID Squad, and since the abolition of the Western Sydney Waste Board and the appointment of Resource NSW to administer waste management for New South Wales, a number of funding changes have been suggested to Resource NSW to lessen the financial burden on the eight councils currently in the program.

Council's current financial commitment to the program is \$45,000 per year on a twelve month commitment basis.

The RID Squad Steering Committee has negotiated with Resource NSW, which now wants a three year commitment from Councils to enable the staff of the Squad to have a more secure employment path. This will require Councils to commit \$20,000 per year instead of \$45,000 per year, and Resource NSW will use the monies recovered from the infringement process to make up the short fall in the budget.

The figure of \$20,000 per year is based on a recovery figure of \$200,000 in infringement income. Should the infringement income fall below the \$200,000 mark, then additional funding would need to be provided by each of the member councils.

The amount of infringement money collected last financial year was \$165,460.00. The current financial year total is \$135,575.00.

Based on these figures, councils would be required to pay more than the proposed \$20,000.00 annually, so it is proposed that a buffer of \$10,000.00 be built into the Budget to cover any short falls in the infringement income. This will require the fund to be monitored throughout the year and reported to Council for expenditure above the initial \$20,000.00.

Resource NSW will match the Council's contribution rates that will apply, to give a total working budget of \$720,000 each year plus CPI increases.

It is apparent that the presence of the RID Squad in our City area has had an impact on the practice of illegal dumping, with a number of local known dumping spots being kept under twenty four hour surveillance and many infringement notices being issued for offences committed. There is also the risk that if Hawkesbury City Council decides not to continue with the Squad, then it would be a target for dumpers to use the area for there illegal activities.

ENVIRONMENT

Meeting Date: 26 March, 2002

Item: **30**

It is also planned to expand the activities of the RID Squad to cover surveillance and investigation of illegal sullage disposal from residential and commercial premises.

Should the costs be able to be kept at or around the \$20,000 - \$30,000 per year level, then the cost for the services rendered would be well worth the money spent for the twenty four hours per day, seven days a week availability of the Squad, when needed.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. Council commit to fund the RID Squad for a period of 3 (three) years commencing 1 July 2002.
2. Council commits a total of \$90,000.00 (ninety thousand dollars) over the 3 (three) year period to fund the RID Squad.
3. Council review its commitment to the RID Squad before July 2004 for a further 3 (three) year commitment.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 30 Oooo