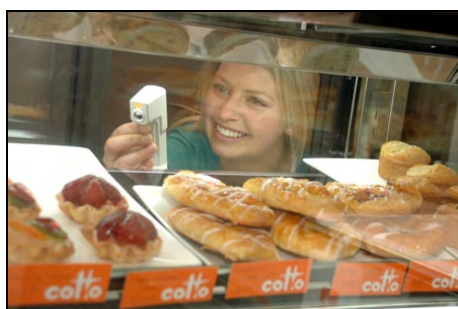
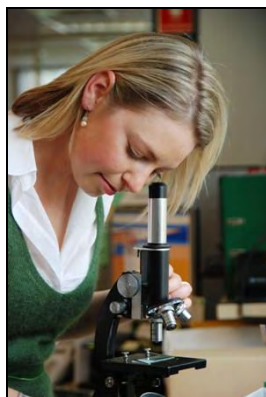


# 2008 / 2009 Annual Report

To the SA Public and Environmental Health Council pursuant to Section 44(1) of the Public and Environmental Health Act 1987



## 1 PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE -

### 1.1 Environmental Health Staff Numbers

Please provide a snapshot of council's environmental health workforce on **30 June 2009** by completing the tables below. This information is requested to inform State and National environmental health workforce initiatives.

Permanent <i>full time</i> employed environmental health officers (approx 38 hours/week) (30 June 2009)			
Full name	Qualifications	EHO experience (years/months)	Commenced working for council (date)
Anne Neubauer	Bachelor of Environmental Health	3 Years & 11 months	25/7/2005
Fontaine Corbo	Bachelor of Environmental Health	2 years & 11 months	19/3/2007
Melissa Tscharke	Bachelor of Environmental Health	1 year & 4 months	21/4/2009
Kathryn Barclay	Bachelor of Environmental Health	1 year & 10 months	3/11/2008
Katie Koto	Bachelor of Environmental Health	4 years & 6 months	2/4/2007

Number (FTE) of Ancillary Staff that assist council to fulfil its responsibilities under the <i>Public &amp; Environmental Health Act, 1987 (30 June 2009)</i>	
Team Leader Environmental Health	1
Environmental Management Officer	1
Community Amenity Improvement Officer	1
Manager Public Health & Safety	1
Immunisation Coordinator	1
Immunisation Nurses	7
Administration	4

## 1.2 Staff Training -

*Detail training and development implemented during the financial year to maintain/develop EHO or ancillary staff skills and knowledge.*

- High Risk Manufactured water system inspection training
- Public and Environmental Health (Legionella) training.
- Hindmarsh Plumbing Legionella training
- Food Act enforcement seminar
- Safely working with ladders
- Manual Handling
- Values based customer service training
- Mental Health First Aid
- Mutual liability climate change workshop
- Clandestine Drug Labs
- Environmental Health Australia State Conference - Hahndorf
- Swimming pool operators training course
- Waste water seminar
- Ecological footprint forum
- Skin penetration training for Environmental Health Officers
- Delegations and Authorisations
- Lead Auditor in Food Safety Management Systems
- Environment Protection Enforcement Certificate Course
- Senior First Aid Certificate
- GIS Computer Software Training
- Microsoft Word, Excel and other applications
- Corporate Standards & General Desktop Induction
- Immunisation Providers Software
- Strategic investigation techniques and evidence gathering
- OHS Requirements for City of Charles Sturt employees
- State records and Freedom of Information Act
- Precision in Decision – Evidence, Facts and Finding
- Lawful Decision Making

Staff have represented the City of Charles Sturt in the following areas:

- Attendance at Food Safety & Disease Control Special Interest Groups
- Department of Health and Local Government Planning Day
- Attendance at Supported Residential Facility Authorised Officer's meetings
- Western Region Environmental Forum
- South Australian Immunisation Network (SAIN) meetings

## 2 PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACT & REGULATIONS

*Complete details of measures taken under Part III of the P&EH Act (protection of public health relating to sanitation, drainage and protection of water supplies) & P&EH Regulations (waste control).*

Section No.	Type	No. of complaints received	No. of notices served	No. of court / appeals / expiations
<b>Public &amp; Environmental Health Act, Part III</b>				
15 & 16	Prevention / offences re insanitary conditions on premises	187	8	0
17	Control of offensive activities	31	0	0
18	Discharge of wastes in a public place	1	0	0
19	Private thoroughfare	0	0	0
20	Provision of adequate sanitation		0	0
21	Pollution of water	0	0	0
22	Closure of water supplies	0	0	0
<b>Regulations 1995 - Waste Control</b>				
Reg. 19	Maintenance orders	0	0	0
Reg. 24	Connect to STEDS	0	0	0

### 2.1 - Monitoring and management of Insanitary Conditions

2.1.1 - Please briefly describe the chief causes of insanitary conditions reported (eg hoarded materials, pest infestation).

Sixty percent of insanitary condition complaints received during the reporting period related to the infestation of vermin, chiefly rats. In many of these cases it is difficult to locate the exact cause or attraction of vermin to properties, so it is generally the City of Charles Sturt's approach to send an information letter and fact sheet to the nearby community of the complaint to increase awareness and promote remedial action. Where subsequent complaints are received or the condition of the property clearly is identified as being in an insanitary condition at the time of the initial complaint, an inspection by one of Council's Environmental Health Officers is undertaken and remedial action is directed.

2.1.2 - Please briefly describe the properties most implicated in the insanitary conditions reported (eg rental properties, privately owned).

The ownership of properties that contain insanitary conditions varies between State owned properties (i.e. SA Housing Trust and Aboriginal Housing), privately owned premises and privately rented properties.

Properties that are privately owned are generally the most difficult to rectify as in most situations, financial resources of the owner are limited. In these situations Council will undertake the required action upon default of a Section 15 Insanitary Condition Notice, and raise a debt against the property via rates in arrears, pursuant to section 23 of the Public and Environmental Health Act.

- 2.1.3 - Please briefly describe the primary impediments to resolving the insanitary conditions reported.

The handling of insanitary condition issues can be an extremely time consuming and difficult area for a number of reasons. It is common for residents living within insanitary conditions to have mental health issues such as schizophrenia, depression and/or hoarding tendencies. It is therefore common for Council's Environmental Health Officers to involve support agencies such as mental health services, domiciliary care, district nursing, cleaning agencies and other community organisations to assist to remove these conditions.

Another impediment to resolving insanitary conditions is the application of the Public and Environmental Health Act 1987 and the definitions provided under the Act. Although the definition under the Act for insanitary conditions is relatively broad, precedence set by the Courts has raised doubts over the application of the Act in many situations where the risk of infestation by rodents or other pests is present; however evidence of physical rodents is not present. This doubt often causes Council to question the validity to serve a notice under Section 15 of the Act, making the legislation difficult to apply in many situations. In these cases it is essential to build a constructive rapport with the resident and negotiate with them to improve their property conditions.

## **2.2 - Monitoring and management of Offensive Activities**

- 2.2.1 - Please briefly describe the offensive activities requiring the action described in the table above under the Public and Environmental Health Act 1987.

The majority of offensive activities investigated by the City of Charles Sturt during the reporting period related to offensive odours from poultry enclosures and refuse areas. A significant increase in the number of cat and dog faeces complaints was also observed throughout the year.

Each of these complaints resulted in Council Officers inspecting the properties of concern and where necessary Council required remedial action to be taken to prevent the offensive activity from reoccurring. In the situations involving excessive dog and cat faeces, Council's Environmental Health Officers worked closed with Council's Animal Management Officers as in most situations, breaches of the Dog and Cat Management Act were also occurring, therefore a coordinated multi-disciplinary investigation was undertaken.

### **3 PRIORITY OF PUBLIC & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES**

---

#### **3.1 - List the more significant environmental health issues currently facing the local community and what is being done to address them**

##### ***Insanitary Conditions***

The largest quantity of complaints received by the City of Charles Sturt's Environmental Health Department was in relation to reports of insanitary conditions, therefore this area continues to be a significant health issue within the local community. Throughout the reporting period, 8 insanitary condition notices were issued for premises in a significant insanitary state, this compares to 2 notices being served in the previous year. Council's Environmental Health Officers work with residents to improve their property conditions, but where action is failed to be taken, a notice is served. The severity and frequency of significant insanitary conditions appears to be increasing within the community, which has significant resourcing issues.

This area of environmental health is often very time consuming, therefore the increase in insanitary conditions places extra work requirements on council staff who are already working at full capacity. Historical property clean ups have identified that there are many gaps within suitable services available, either locally or at a State level. In lieu of services not being available, the Environmental Health Team has worked above and beyond their legislative responsibilities to ensure that the interests of the resident and community were taken care of.

The City of Charles Sturt has continued its Multi Departmental Compliance Group to work through this significant environmental health issue. The cross-departmental group is committed to improving the state of derelict, insanitary and unsightly properties within the City. Participating departments of the group include Environmental Health, Compliance, Planning Compliance, Community Care, Open Space and Recreation and Building. Council's Community Amenity Improvement Officer works with property owners and/or occupiers to resolve derelict, insanitary and unsightly premises through negotiation and developing an action plan in partnership with the resident. The Community Amenity Improvement Officer has developed a resource folder which contains key contacts, agencies and contractors to assist in the improvement of properties in a derelict, insanitary and/or unsightly condition.

##### ***Water Quality***

With a large coast line, river and lake system all located within the City of Charles Sturt, water quality protection is a significant area of environmental health facing the local community. Council's Environmental Health and Compliance Staff are authorised under the Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy and actively promote, educate and enforce this Policy. All development applications incorporate notes relating to stormwater management on building sites, an area that has the potential to have a significant effect on the quality of stormwater. Complaints relating to water quality incidents increased by 25% in comparison to the previous year, however the number of complaints continues to be less than historical requests following numerous educational strategies being undertaken by the team.

##### ***Food Safety***

With close to 800 food businesses within the City, the regulation of the Food Act within the City of Charles Sturt is a priority. Each food business within the Council area is inspected on a routine basis varying from 3 to 24 months depending on the priority risk classification of the business. In addition to routine regulatory inspections, a number of proactive educational strategies are utilised to improve food handler skills and knowledge which ultimately improves the quality of food sold within the City ensuring that it is safe and suitable for

human consumption. Investigations relating to food complaints are also undertaken by Council's Environmental Health Officers, with the number of food complaints received during the reporting period accounting for the second highest category of complaints.



**Council's Environmental Health Officer performing a routine food premises inspection**

### **3.2 - Prioritisation process**

3.2.1 - How was council made aware of these priority issues (eg investigation, research, complaint)?

#### ***Insanitary Conditions***

Insanitary condition requests represent the highest number of complaints received by Council's Environmental Health Department. These conditions have the potential to significantly impact upon human health, therefore this area of public health has been identified as a priority for Council.

#### ***Water Quality***

Water quality issues within the City of Charles Sturt have been determined as a high priority due to their environmental significance within our region. By undertaking proactive educational strategies and taking a no tolerance approach to water pollution, builders and residents alike are aware of the effects of water pollution both on human and environmental health.

#### ***Food Regulation***

The concentrated number of food premises within the City of Charles Sturt and their potential to cause wide outbreaks of food-borne illness determines that the regulation of this activity is a priority.

3.2.2 - How were these issues prioritised (number of people affected, risk, politics) ?

These issues were determined a priority due to the large number of people affected, their environmental significance, legislative responsibilities and in accordance with Council's strategic direction.

### **3.3 Detail any programs specifically aimed at dealing with public health issues related to vulnerable groups in your community (eg aboriginal, migrants, and the aged).**

#### ***New Arrival Refugee Immunisation Program***

The New Arrival Refugee Immunisation (NARI) Program continued for its fourth year. This program provides a dedicated immunisation service to achieve better health outcomes for newly arrived refugees to our City.

The NARI program is a partnership between the Department of Health, Migrant Health Services and the City of Charles Sturt. During the reporting period, grant funding assisted to provide a designated monthly clinic to service new arrival clients. The clinic environment includes access to an interpreting service to assist Council's immunisation staff to determine what vaccines are required, in addition to the clients being able to effectively understand the vaccines being received and their possible side effects and the translated service ensures that valid consent from the client is received. These monthly clinics also provide Council staff with an opportunity to detail other services offered by Council to newly arrived refugees and link them to support networks to assist their transition into Australia. During the reporting period, 242 new arrival clients received 652 vaccines.

### ***Home and Community Care***

The Home and Community Care (HACC) Program has continued to be supported by Council to ensure frail or older persons, persons with a disability and their carers have access to socialisation opportunities. These opportunities are provided through a range of different services including visits to local community centres and friendly visiting programs, shopping, short term cleaning and laundry assistance, transport to local shopping centres, home maintenance and safety and security services.

Council's HACC staff also worked extensively with the Environmental Health Officers to address the needs of several residents whose properties were determined to be insanitary, and subsequently assisted with yard cleans and/or spring cleans of these properties.

### ***Refugee Week***

A Multilingual Story Time was conducted at Civic Library during Refugee Week. This brought together the regular story time with the multilingual story time. Stories were read in Vietnamese and English. After the completion of the stories and games all the participants shared halal food which was prepared in a safe manner.

### ***Settlement Grant Program***

A shopping excursion was arranged for new and emerging community members at Centro Arndale. The purpose behind the excursion was to show and inform the participants about how to shop in their new community and how to select fresh produce. They were shown the behind the scenes workings of a major shopping centre to help in the understanding of how the fresh food was delivered and displayed in the shops.

The participants in the program were invited to share a meal with their friends at the West Lakes Community centre. Approximately 50 participants and friends were treated to a freshly prepared halal meal. This was both a socialisation experience, but also an attempt to introduce this group to fresh, healthy food.

### ***Aboriginal and Torres Strait Youth Expo***

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Expo was conducted in partnership with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Kumangka Aboriginal Youth Services, Aboriginal Drug & Alcohol Council, the City of Port Adelaide Enfield, the Office for Youth, Kera Yerlo, Aboriginal Kinship Program, the Office for Recreation and Sport, Child and Youth Health Woodville and the City of Charles Sturt. The event was celebrated as part of National Youth Week.

This event provided an opportunity for young people from an aboriginal or torres strait background to access information regarding future pathways necessary to live within their respective communities. The expo provided information about health, education, training and employment and recreation. There were over 60 stalls representing many local groups and service providers together with local and state government. The event was attended by approximately 800 students from various schools and community groups. These students were provided with a nutritious lunch with advice on how to prepare healthy foods.

## 4 DISEASE CONTROL

### 4.1 - Monitoring of Pools & Spas (public aquatic facilities) to minimise the incidence of water-borne illness (please complete the table below and provide details of any special activities, eg, training etc.)

Type of Pool	Number in area	Number of routine inspections	Number of complaints	Number of Inspections related to complaints/investigations	Total number of inspections
Swimming	16	22	1	6	28
Spa	3	7	0	1	8
Hydrotherapy	1	2	0	2	4
Waterslide	0				
Other	0				
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>40</b>

There are currently 17 premises within the City of Charles Sturt that provide public swimming pool/spa facilities. A database of all public swimming pools and spas is maintained by Council with each facility having a regular monitoring regime in place. All public spa pools are inspected at least every 3 months, indoor swimming pools are inspected at least every 6 months and outdoor pools are inspected annually during the summer period.

Towards the end of the previous reporting period (2007/08), the City of Charles Sturt distributed a survey to determine the level of knowledge and understanding of public pool operators. The results identified that a number of skills in some specific areas, particular pool water quality, required further information. In response the Environmental Health team delivered an interactive information session for all pool operators within the City. The results of this training session have now been identified in this reporting period with a 54% reduction in non-compliance issues identified at inspections.



**Council's Environmental Health Officer performing a public swimming pool inspection**

**4.2 - Monitoring & investigation to minimise the incidence of Legionnaires Disease** (please complete the table below and provide details of any special activities, eg, training, investigations etc)

Type of System	Number registered in area	Number of routine inspections	Number of complaints	Number of Inspections related to complaints/investigations	Total number of inspections
Cooling Water System	45	7 premises inspected, 29 systems.	0	0	7
Warm Water System	8	2 premises inspected, 5 systems.	0	0	2
Other	0		1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>9 premises inspected, 34 systems</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>

The City of Charles Sturt developed a business process, including a fee structure and electronic database workflow, to accommodate the Public and Environmental Health (Legionella) Regulations which were released in October 2008. A mail out, including registration forms, was sent to all known businesses that utilise cooling and/or warm water systems advising of the new Regulations and the requirement to register with Council. Several follow ups also occurred and are continuing to occur to ensure system owners are completing all information on the registration forms, with residential information often not provided. A generic mail-out was also sent to other business sectors within the city that may utilise these type of systems to raise their awareness of the new regulations.

To provide all Environmental Health Officers with the skills and knowledge regarding the new Public and Environmental Health (Legionella) Regulations, each attended education sessions presented by the Department of Health in September 2008. This information was then complemented by site specific training organised in house. Nalco Australia and Rheem were engaged to provide staff with the technical knowledge of cooling towers and warm water systems. The session was held at the Western Hospital, with a mock inspection of the buildings cooling towers and warm water systems being undertaken. This experience, in addition to the education session presented by the Department of Health, provided the Environmental Health Officers with the confidence to commence inspecting manufactured high risk water systems.

The City of Charles Sturt investigated a confirmed case of Legionella Pneumophila in a resident at Cheltenham. The investigation involved the collection of water samples for the purpose of Legionella analysis from the resident's dwelling. Samples were collected from the shower head, bathroom and kitchen taps and the client's nebuliser. Contact was also made with premises containing cooling towers in close proximity to the resident, however no source was located.

#### 4.3 Monitoring and control of Waste Control Systems (eg. septic tanks, STEDS, CEDS)

Type of System	Number of applications	Number of routine inspections	Number of complaints
Septic Tank	0	0	0
Aerobic System	0	0	0
Other (name)	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

The City of Charles Sturt is connected to the main sewer throughout its municipality. A number of calls were received regarding the installation of grey water reuse systems, however due to allotment size requirements and costs involved, no formal applications were received for grey water systems.

A resident's grey water resource package has been developed by Council and is provided to residents requiring information in regards to the installation of grey water systems. An internal process has also been established to allow Council to assess an application should such a device be proposed. Further information on the City of Charles Sturt website is also under construction to provide residents with readily accessible information.

#### 4.4 Immunisation programs

*Please provide details on the number of clinics conducted during the reporting period*

<i>Clinic Type</i>	<i>Number of Clinics</i>
Number of Council Operated Public Clinics	158
Number of School Clinics	27
Number of Internal (Council Staff) Influenza Clinics	4
Number of External Influenza Workplace Clinics	28
Number of Other Workplace Clinics	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>219</b>



**Council's Immunisation Nurse providing a child's vaccination**

#### 4.5 Notifiable Disease Follow Up -

*Provide details of actions resulting from notifiable disease notifications received from CDCB (insert a table if preferred)*

A total of 7 notifiable disease notifications from the Communicable Disease Control Branch were received during the reporting period as detailed below:

- Campylobacter - 2 health care workers and 1 food handler
- Shigella – 1 new arrival refugee resident
- Cryptosporidium – 1 child
- Rotavirus – 1 food handler
- Legionella pneumophila – 1 case as detailed in section 4.2

#### 4.6 Monitoring of Hairdressing, Beauty & Skin Penetration businesses

Type of Facility	Number in area	Number of routine inspections	Number of complaints	Inspections related to complaints/investigations	Total number of inspections
Tattoo Parlours & Body Piercing	3	3	0	0	3
Hairdressing & Beauty Salons (including those that undertake skin penetration)	128	0	0	0	0
Other: Acupuncturist	6	5	0	0	5
<b>Total</b>					<b>8</b>

The City of Charles Sturt currently houses 128 hairdressing and beauty salons and 3 tattoo/body piercing premises. These figures were calculated via a hairdressing, beauty and skin penetration self audit which was devised by Council's Environmental Health Department to update our hairdressing and skin penetration register in 2008. In addition to updating Council's database, the audit was used to assess the level of knowledge amongst the staff in these premises and provide the necessary information to ensure that hairdressing, beauty salon and skin penetration operators are taking the appropriate measures to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases.

A risk assessment is soon to be commenced and a subsequent standard operating procedure is to be developed for all hairdressing, beauty and skin penetration premises within the City. A risk based approach will be taken to identify the type of regulation utilised for this sector, with all high risk premises being inspected regularly. Currently businesses involved in tattooing and significant skin penetration (body piercing) are subject to an annual inspection, however further investigation will be undertaken to determine the risk involved in other skin penetration practices such as beauty procedures. Alternative therapeutical practices will also be examined to ensure these are regulated within the city where their location is known.

**4.7 Monitoring and control of Vectors and Other Pests (include level of activity, control measures, number/regularity of complaints, education programs etc)**

Vector or Pest	Number of Complaints	Control Program (Y/N) (Please provide further details below)
Mosquitoes	4	Y
Rodents	126	Y
Head Lice	1	Y
Flies	0	Y
Pigeons	6	Y
Scabies	0	Y
Cockroaches	1	Y
Bees	46	Y
European Wasps	183	Y

Description of control program (identifying vector/pest and activity undertaken)

***Rodents***

Council continued to provide assistance to residents experiencing issues with vermin through a number of methods. Complaints regarding rodents represented the largest proportion of complaints received by Council's Environmental Health Department. Council provides residents with a limited supply of free rat bait available from Council's Civic Centre. Throughout the year 1111 boxes of rat bait were provided to residents through the program. 6 individual packets of bait are provided in each box of bait, with each residential property entitled to 1 box every 6 months. Only 18 properties received 2 boxes of bait throughout the year.

In addition to the supply of rat bait, educational material is generally sent out in response to vermin complaints. This material is not only sent to the complainant, but is also distributed to a large number of residents surrounding the complainant's property. It is stressed that neighbourhood cooperation is the most effective method of reducing the presence of vermin in an area. This educational method has proved to be an effective approach and has reduced the number of site inspections undertaken by Council's Environmental Health Officers. Subsequent complaints or complaints that clearly describe properties that are insanitary result in an onsite inspection being undertaken.

***Head Lice***

The number of complaints/enquiries received by Council regarding head lice is minimal. In response to any complaints, the Department of Health's 'Healthy Heads Without Headlice' resource package is utilised to provide information to both parents and schools.

***Pigeons***

Pigeon complaints can be difficult to rectify, particularly when community members feed feral pigeons. Through an educational approach, Council Officers speak to residents feeding feral pigeons in an attempt to change their behaviours.

***Mosquitoes, Flies, Scabies & Cockroaches***

Council provides educational material and undertakes site inspections where necessary in response to complaints relating to these pests. A factsheet to control cockroaches has been developed.

### **Bees**

41 requests were received by Council regarding bees sighted on Council land. In response to these concerns, Council's pest controller was engaged to remove them. Council's Compliance Department received 5 nuisance complaints associated to bees. Council worked closely with PIRSA to ensure that bee hives being maintained on private properties within the City of Charles Sturt had the relevant permits necessary and were meeting the required standards.

### **European Wasps**

The City of Charles Sturt participated in the South Australian Local Government Association's European Wasp Equalisation Fund. During the year 136 European Wasp nests were destroyed from private properties and 11 from Council land. A static display providing educational material on European wasps, which included a description of their life cycle, nest construction, tracking methods and management strategies was held at Council's Civic Centre.

## **4.8 - Monitoring & control of Animal Keeping Facilities (eg. domestic animals, petting zoos, kennels)**

### **Foreshore Education**

Council employed a Beach Education Officer over the summer months to educate both dog owners and non dog owners on foreshore bylaw, dog legislation, responsible dog ownership and Councils Animal Management Plan. This was a purely an education role and the Officer did not have any enforcement powers.

### **Cat Control**

Council has a bylaw that seeks to limit the number of cats allowed per property. This bylaw was introduced on 1 January 2008. Owners of more than 2 cats can apply for an excess cat permit with Council but strict conditions apply including the requirement to have all cats desexed and they must also be contained within the property so as not to cause a nuisance. No insanitary conditions are to exist on the premises and the keeping of the cats can not breach any provisions of Section 258 of the Local Government Act 1999 or any other legislation which relates to the keeping of animals. Since the introduction of the bylaw, 11 applications for permits have been received to keep excess cats. Only 1 of these applications were refused due to the insanitary conditions that existed on the property as well as the owner's inability to adequately care for the cats.

During the 2008-2009 financial year, 58 complaints regarding cats were received by Council. Over 50% of these complaints related to excess cat numbers. Council continued to be involved in the trapping of unidentified cats as part of our cat management program.

### **Dog Control**

Council undertook a review of our open spaces in regards to dog on leash and off leash areas. Following community engagement, Council identified 15 reserves that were declared dog on leash at all times areas. In addition 5 reserves were declared as dog on leash areas when other people are present on the reserve. The most common issues identified from the consultation process were safety concerns with dogs interacting with children and the public, some dog owners not picking up after their dogs and thirdly, having dogs on leash when children are present. As a result of this feedback, Council continued to encourage responsible dog ownership with regular patrols of open spaces and our foreshore particularly in the warmer months.

During the reporting period, Council investigated 114 dog attack/harassment complaints compared to 155 for 2007-2008. This was a 26% reduction which can be attributed to our responsible dog ownership education programs.

#### **4.9 Outline any preparation work done for Pandemic Flu**

The City of Charles Sturt has a business continuity plan implemented. This plan identifies Council's internal response to different risks, for example a loss of staff from a pandemic, loss of Council buildings, etc. The development of this plan identifies what essential services within Council would need to be kept running and how this would be effectively managed. The plan at this stage is focussed on Council's internal response, as opposed to a community response which is yet to be addressed.

In response to the H1N1 (swine flu) pandemic which commenced in the reporting period, the City of Charles Sturt implemented a number of strategies to prevent the transfer of disease. The Department of Health's 'wash, wipe, cover' information package proved to be valuable and was displayed at Council's Civic Centre for all visitors and staff to view. Furthermore specific information was provided to staff regarding the illness, personal protection measures and recommendations for staff travelling to affected regions (at the commencement of the pandemic).

The purchase and distribution of hand sanitiser gel for all staff within Council occurred, with over 40 locations being supplied with this product. Alcohol wipes were also made available to staff for cleaning telephones, keyboards etc. and P2 respirators were also purchased as a precautionary measure. The seasonal flu vaccination program was extended for staff and residents alike, with a 38% increase in participation of the program in comparison to the previous year.

#### **4.10 Other**

No other activities to report.

## 5 PUBLIC & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

---

5.1 Does Council have a current Public & Environmental Health Management Plan or Strategic/ Corporate Plan that forward plans the environmental health activities of Council?

**YES** / NO

**IF NO**

Does Council expect to produce one within the next 2 years?

**YES / NO**

**IF YES**

Date commenced

Have details of the plan been provided in previous reports ?

**YES / NO**

(If Yes, go to next item)

*Provide a summary of how the Plan responds to the needs of the local community, how it is progressing and how regularly it is reviewed.*

All members of the Environmental Health Team actively contribute to the formation of an annual Environmental Health Business Plan which is implemented into Council's Public Health and Safety Business Plan. Prevention of behaviours that deteriorate public health and safety is optimal and where practical, this is the focus of our service delivery. There are many factors that influence our ability to prevent inappropriate practices and behaviours and because of these, prevention may not always be achievable. This is where education and encouragement and enforcement take the lead role. Each of the community issues under the responsibility of the Public Health and Safety Team are unique and require careful consideration to ensure that the right balance of education and encouragement and enforcement is achieved.

The City Of Charles Sturt's corporate values, community plan and corporate strategic plan are considered and connected into the Business Plan and Council's endorsed 'Future Directions for Environmental Health' paper is referenced to provide direction to the planning process. The number and category of customer requests, topical issues and community expectations is also utilised in the planning process to provide services that will meet the needs of the community.

The City of Charles Sturt community plan (a 20 year community vision) titled 'Shaping the Western Suburbs 2027', reflects our community's aspiration for the future of the City including where people want to live, work and be a part of in the future. The plan provides Council with a focus for our business activities, to ensure Council activities are in line with the communities expectations. The City of Charles Sturt's community plan has become the lead document in our strategic planning framework and is reflected in our four year corporate strategic plan which outlines actions, responsibilities and timeframes that will contribute to achieving the 20 year plan. The community plan and corporate strategic plan have direct actions relating to public and environmental health which are being actioned by the administration staff of council.

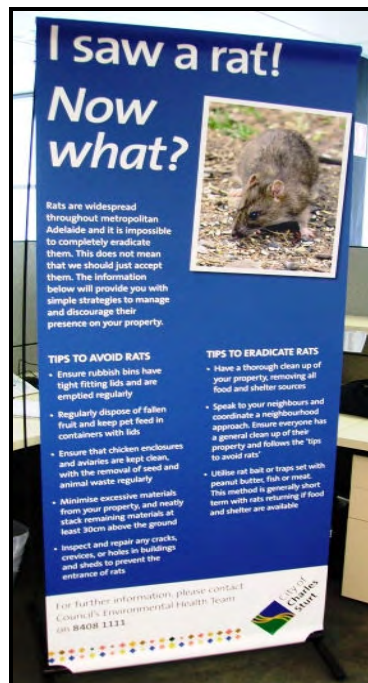
## 6. HEALTH EDUCATION / PROMOTION & COMMUNITY CONSULTATION -

Include Council initiatives, activities and programs designed to promote public health issues to the community including those delivered in partnership with others. (eg. training sessions, workshops, radio interviews, presentations / education sessions to schools/community groups, educational materials produced, newsletter articles, studies or trials). Provide details of consultation and community involvement, the variety of communication tools used (eg. local newspaper/radio, Council pamphlets, shopping centre displays) and how projects are evaluated.

### **Environmental Health Promotion/Education Plan**

A health promotion/education calendar was established at the commencement of the year with a number of topics promoted each month. Displays and material were distributed throughout Council's libraries, Civic Centre, Council's community magazine Kaleidoscope, the local Messenger Press newspaper and Council's public website. Health promotion topics included:

- Vermin control
- Property maintenance
- Cigarette Butt Littering Campaign
- European Wasps
- Wood heaters
- Stormwater pollution prevention
- Immunisation
- Food safety



**A banner developed to educate residents on rat control**

### **Food Business Recognition**

To increase the level of compliance amongst food businesses within the city, which will ultimately reduce the incidence of food-borne illness from food purchased within the city, the City of Charles Sturt developed the 'Deliciously Safe' program. This innovative program recognises and rewards businesses who achieve full compliance at their routine food premises inspection. Within the 2007/2008 financial year, a total of 733 routine inspections were undertaken. In the same period, 677 follow-up inspections were undertaken as a result of the identification of non-compliances, a total of 1410 food premises inspections. This follow up rate identifies that 92% of food businesses did not achieve full legislative compliance at their initial routine inspection. This innovative program addresses a strong desire in the community to 'name and shame' non-compliant businesses in a more proactive positive approach by rewarding and recognising compliant food businesses and inadvertently identifying businesses that are not fully compliant. It also encourages food businesses to

strive for compliance due to the recognition provided by the program and therefore is increasing food safety in the community.

Businesses that achieve compliance with all the requirements of the food laws at the time of their routine inspection are provided with a Deliciously Safe sticker and certificate. This sticker allows the customer to recognise their compliant status and provides the consumer confidence that the business has met all the food safety requirements. The sticker identifies the date of inspection where the food business was identified as being compliant. In addition to the sticker and certificate, the City of Charles Sturt's website has been updated to provide the food industry and the general public with information on the program and also lists all the businesses awarded with the Deliciously Safe status.

Two distinct marketing campaigns were developed for the program. The first phase involved the distribution of a vibrant information pamphlet to all eligible food businesses within the City of Charles Sturt. This pamphlet provided information on the program, its benefits and rewards for the food business and provided tips on how businesses can achieve full compliance. The second phase of the marketing campaign was focused on the general public, to raise the awareness of food safety and its prevalence amongst food businesses within the City of Charles Sturt. Full colour advertisements were placed in the Messenger Press, Council's Kaleidoscope newspaper, and on Council's public website. Since the launch of the Deliciously Safe program in May 2009, 10 food businesses have achieved full compliance and as a result have been awarded with their Deliciously Safe sticker. The program will undergo a 12 month review in May 2010 with modification to the program made based on feedback.



**The Deliciously Safe sticker provided to fully compliant food businesses**

### ***Community Foodies Program***

The highly successful Community Foodies Project aimed at teaching and encouraging people to eat right continued for its second year. Community Foodies is a peer education project where community members are trained over a six week period in areas such as basic food and nutrition, group work, presentation skills and program planning and evaluation skills. Once trained, participants are then known as "Foodies" and are encouraged to share their knowledge by implementing specific programs that address the nutritional needs of their community, in particular, low income families. "Foodies" is a joint initiative between the South Australian Government through SA Health, the City of Charles Sturt, Uniting Care Wesley Port Adelaide – Communities for Children, the City of Port Adelaide Enfield/Parks Community Centre, Parks Children's Centre and Westwood. During the year numerous

activities were held throughout the council area educating mothers and children in particular about food nutrition and food safety.

#### ***Pap Smear Awareness Week Morning Tea***

Occurring on 4 May 2009, the Findon Library and the Findon Community Centre, funded by SA Health and the Cancer Council of SA, provided a morning tea for the Community at the Findon Library to mark Pap Smear Awareness Week 2009.

The event, which also encouraged discussion on related health issues by those attending, targeted women aged between 18 and 70 whilst also aiming to attract a number of specific groups such as those with a culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background. A general invitation was issued to the wider community to attend. Associated displays were exhibited at each of the City's 5 libraries and 6 Community Centres and a leaflet drop to local medical centres, surgeries and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital was also distributed. Emails promoting the event were also sent to a variety of media outlets in the hope of being included in community announcement bulletins.

The partnership created between the Library Service, the Dale Street Women's Health Centre Port Adelaide, Primary Health Care SA, SA Health and the Cancer Council of SA was integral in providing an event worthy of the occasion.

Key outcomes of the event were:

- - Increased community awareness of 2 yearly pap smears and their importance in preventing cervical cancers.
- - Increased community access to quality information support and services and the opportunity to participate in and contribute to a brainstorming session with the health professionals present.
- - Development of a significant partnership between the key agencies which proved extremely helpful with this event but also promises to help deliver positive outcomes in dealing with other health related issues, particularly among women.

In essence, the event helped mark what turned out to be an extremely effective state-wide public awareness campaign with obvious health related information provided but also the increased community awareness that Libraries and Community Centres can assist in the provision of such information as well as being able to generate partnerships with external organisations which lead to support and services in the field.

#### ***Be a Community Kid Program***

The 'Be A Community Kid (BACK) program continued to be delivered by Council to year 7 students at all the primary schools located within the City of Charles Sturt. The BACK program is a proactive strategy that is used to raise awareness of public health, safety, environment and other topical issues within the community. School visits are carried out to discuss and provide information on how councils operate and to raise awareness of selected topics. Students then have the opportunity to come into the Council Chamber where they simulate a Council meeting. This simulation involves students electing a Mayor and Council members to debate topical issues. In the reporting period, 560 young people participated in the program from 11 schools.

#### ***People with Pushers***

Meeting and leaving from the Henley Beach Library weekly, this group of parents and care givers have the opportunity to link into a healthy community and network with others offering socialisation and support. The weekly walk for approximately 45 minutes along the beachside location promotes the benefits of activity with the opportunity for children and

adults to socialise after the walk in the library environment promoting both healthy lifestyles and early literacy.

### ***Henley Seaside Striders***

A City of Charles Sturt and Heart Foundation initiative, this vibrant group gathers at the Henley Beach Library each Friday morning at 9.30am (depending on weather conditions) for their weekly walk. All participants, regardless of levels of fitness and intensity, are welcome to join in, with sub groups forming as the need arises. Once again the benefits of a healthy lifestyle are being promoted here along with an opportunity for socialisation and ready access to the natural and built environment.

### ***Healthy Cooking – Mushrooms***

Findon Library hosted Marvellous Mushrooms cooking seminar focussing on the benefits of healthy cooking with fresh ingredients. The free cooking demonstrations and tastings were conducted in partnership with Adelaide renowned foodies, Pam Tobin, the Food Studio, Metropolitan Fresh Fruiters and the Mushroom Growers Association. The sessions were popular participants, filling the library with customers and tasty aromas.

### ***Library and Community Centres Health Pursuits***

A range of healthy activities and displays were delivered through Council's library and community centres. The programs ranging from naturopathy to yoga and pilates, are promoted through Council's Community Guide program which encourages healthy pursuits amongst the residents of Charles Sturt.

### ***Ride to Work Day***

A community breakfast was held to promote Ride to Work Day in October 2008 with approximately 100 people attending and subsequently forming a Bicycle User Group. This group now meets bi-monthly to at the Henley Library and represents cyclists travelling, commuting or visiting the Charles Sturt Council area.

### ***Mental Health Week, Postcards Project - 5-11 October 2008***

The Postcards Project was coordinated to promote mental health awareness in our community and resulted in over 20 local organisations participating and over 200 postcards being received. The event has gone state wide in 2009 in a partnership with the Mental Health Coalition of South Australia.

### ***Diabetes Awareness Day – 4 November 2008***

Hosted by the Athol Park Neighbourhood House, the event was attended by a local pharmacy and Diabetes SA to highlight how to prevent and manage Diabetes. Also the Vision Van was available for appointments to provide free eye checks for macular degeneration.

### ***Biggest Morning Tea – 21 May 2009***

An event was hosted by the Athol Park Neighbourhood House to support the Cancer Council. A presentation was provided on cancer prevention and information was distributed to participants of the event.

### ***Food Safety Skills and Knowledge Projects***

A comprehensive food sampling program was undertaken in the year to assess the level of food poisoning bacteria in sandwiches and rolls sold across the City from cafes, delicatessens and bakeries. The results of the food sampling program were investigated by a Flinders University student to assess the level of food safety knowledge amongst food handlers in those food businesses sampled. The results identified a high level of skills and knowledge amongst food handlers within the City, however 7% of food handlers demonstrated a low

level of knowledge. To address this issue, the Environmental Health Department regularly develop and distribute information to food handlers on food safety fundamentals.

A second Flinders University student participated in a study in conjunction with the City of Charles Sturt aimed at identifying the level of food safety knowledge amongst high and lower levels of socio-economic residents within the City of Charles Sturt. A survey was distributed to 600 residents in the suburbs of Athol Park, Woodville North and West Lakes. The survey required the participants to rate their level of food safety knowledge and then asked specific food safety questions to quantify if the level of knowledge perceived by the residents was demonstrated in their ability to answer the technical food safety questions. An interactive food safety workshop was held with a number of community members participating. The workshop provided specific food safety knowledge on preventing food poisoning in the home by implementing effective hand washing, preventing cross contamination, washing food appropriately and ensuring food is cooked, stored and displayed at appropriate temperatures. The results identified that the participants surveyed did not display a considerable difference of their level of food safety knowledge regardless of their socio-economic status.

## **7. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT & SUSTAINABILITY -**

---

*Provide details of activities designed to reduce and prevent exposure of individuals to health hazards. May include number/types of complaints received, issues dealt with, concerns, inventories held etc.*

### **7.1 - Monitoring to ensure Potable Water (eg. rainwater tanks, bores)**

All properties within the City of Charles Sturt receive potable water, therefore active monitoring of this water supply is not undertaken by Council.

A restriction has been implemented by the Department of Health and the Environment Protection Authority to remove bore water from hundreds of properties in the Beverly, Woodville South, Woodville West and Findon areas. This restriction and subsequent notification to residents was undertaken in early 2008, however as new residents move into this area, the City of Charles Sturt responds to concerns received by residents and provides relevant information regarding the trichloroethylene contaminated groundwater.

### **7.2 - Monitoring to ensure Water Quality / Protection of Waterways and Catchments**

With an extensive coastline extending more than 11 kilometres and fringing 11 km of urban-Adelaide's iconic river Torrens and 100 ha of recreational lakes, the City has a significant interest and commitment to protection of water bodies and water sources. As a result, various activities were undertaken to educate the community and protect the waterways and catchments within the City:

- - The Environmental Health Team regulated the Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy during the year, with 70 complaints/incidents being reported to Council, an increase of 25% from the previous reporting period. Each of these complaints were investigated within 24 hours of receipt of the complaint, resulting in 22 expiation notices being issued. Council's Compliance Team are also authorised to administer the Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy to provide additional resources to this important and environmentally significant area.
- - The drain stencilling program continued in the year with members of Adelaide Secondary School of English participating. The school, which educates new arrival students to Australia, were educated on stormwater pollution and the importance of protecting our waterways. To reinforce the message, students were involved in drain stencilling drain pit-lids surrounding the school with messages such as 'the drain is just for rain'.
- - The Clean Site Program was held at The Avenues Athol Park. The program, an environmental education initiative aimed at builders and construction trades, provided training and practical examples to improve on-site environmental performance and to prevent stormwater pollution. Building and construction site practices are consistently being identified as significant sources of stormwater pollution. Soil, sand, rubbish and other building materials are washed by rain, blown by wind, or carried off site on vehicle tyres into street gutters, into drains and end up polluting our creeks, rivers, beaches and bays. Improved stormwater management practices have flow on benefits to homeowners, builders and the industry that include reduced clean up costs, improved site safety, fewer public complaints, a good community image and reduced risk of fines.



Council's officer assessing water quality at the River Torrens outlet

### 7.3 - **Waste Management Practices (domestic waste, landfills, green waste, recycling, solid waste, hazardous waste) (eg. types and regularity of services)**

- - The City of Charles Sturt provides a 3 bin waste system, incorporating a 140 litre bin for residual domestic waste that is collected weekly and two 240 litre bins (one for recyclables and one for green waste) each collected fortnightly. This system since its introduction in February 2005 has had major beneficial effects on the environment by increasing recycling of materials and reducing the amount of waste going to landfill. Therefore Council is meeting the requirements set out by the State Government through Zero Waste.  
Charles Sturt disposed of 22,264 tonnes of domestic waste during the reporting period. The fortnightly recyclable collection service resulted in 11,562 tonnes of materials being recycled with a participation rate of over 75%. The fortnightly green waste collection service resulted in 12,884 tonnes being collected, with a participation rate of just under 50%.
- - A hard waste kerb side collection service was held between October and December 2008 across the 10 zones throughout the Council area. A total of 2,505 tonnes of hard waste was collected and transported to Wastecare's recycling facility. Participation of this service increased in comparison to the previous year, resulting in an additional 324 tonnes being collected. Since the commencement of this program in 2003, the total amount of hard refuse material collected has increased by 1153.06 tonnes.
- - The City of Charles Sturt operates a Waste Management Centre for the public to utilise. The centre located at Beverley has a strong emphasis on recycling waste products, with a target set to recycle at least 50% of materials deposited. The centre is open 7 days a week and in 2008/09, over 5,700 tonnes of general waste was deposited. 62 tonnes of steel, 1880 tonnes of green waste and 1180 tonnes of concrete was recycled. In addition 9600 litres of oil, 224 tyres and 250 batteries were recycled and over 3000 tonnes of recycled mulch was sold to the public, an increase of over 50% in mulch sales.
- - Council distributed food waste containers to over 3,000 households in early 2009, and has measured their adoption of this system to determine its likely effectiveness if rolled out across the City. The trial has measured yields of food diverted for composting using the new system, odours, bin fullness, community support and cost effectiveness. Results of the trial are currently being collated and will be used to inform Council when it makes a decision whether to roll out the system when the trial concludes.

#### **7.4 Monitoring of Contaminated Land -**

Council continued to assess sites for potential contamination as part of the development assessment process. The City of Charles Sturt utilises the principles of Planning SA's Site Contamination Advisory Notice 20, as a guideline for all activities relating to potentially contaminated sites. Land contamination is an issue that is increasingly difficult to assess in an efficient manner. The introduction of the Environment Protection Authority's site contamination legislation at the end of the reporting period will assist to provide a consistent method of assessment across all planning authorities in South Australia. The Environmental Health Team provides advice and recommendations in the development assessment process recommending activities required to ensure the site will be suitable for the proposed use without causing environmental or health impacts.

#### **7.5 - Monitoring and Control of Hazardous Substances (eg. asbestos, medical waste)**

The City of Charles Sturt collected 61 inappropriately discarded syringes. The collection of syringes is undertaken as soon as possible, but within 24 hours of receiving a report. Council sell sharps container at cost price to the public through our Woodville Civic Centre.

Council actively promoted the Environment Protection Authority's Hazardous Waste Depot throughout the reporting period. A number of articles were published in the local Messenger Press and information uploaded onto Council's website.

#### **7.6 - Monitoring of Air Quality**

The use of wood heaters during the winter months continues to generate wood smoke complaints. The City of Charles Sturt responded to 13 complaints through an education and site visit approach. Council feels strongly that nuisance air pollution complaints should be addressed by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) who have the responsibility for regulating the Environment Protection Act. As the EPA rarely react to domestic wood smoke complaints, the Environmental Health Team assisted residents by sending out a letter and information booklet to the property allegedly causing the concern. If the complaint persisted and the complainant re-contacted Council, a site visit to the property was undertaken from an educational perspective to ensure that the wood and wood heater was adequate, in an attempt to reduce the amount of smoke being generated from the heater.

#### **7.7 Noise Complaint Investigations**

Council received a number of complaints regarding noise from barking dogs and noisy birds. In response to these concerns, log sheets were sent to the complainants to document the times, dates and duration of the noise. On receipt of the completed log sheets, an investigation by one of Council's Compliance Officers was undertaken.

#### **7.8 - Monitoring and Control of Recreation Facilities (eg. risk assessment of playgrounds, inspections of camping areas etc.)**

The City Of Charles Sturt inspects and maintains its 110 playgrounds monthly. In addition to these inspections, a number of activities were undertaken throughout the year to improve the usability, amenity, safety and overall attractiveness of recreational facilities, reserves and streetscapes within the City. Some of these projects included:

- - The analysis of groundwater at Woodville Oval for trichloroethylene contamination.
- - Works were completed to construct the Coast Park between the Henley Sailing Club south to Chetwynd Street. Further works commenced to extend this project with an anticipation that Coast Park will significantly increase the bicycle usage of residents of Charles Sturt and the broader community along the coast.
- - In accordance with Council's drought response plan, a total of 10,100sqm of irrigated turf was reduced, reducing the consumption of water for irrigation.
- - In excess of 7500 trees and shrubs planted throughout the council landscape.
- - The installation of 4 new playgrounds within the City.
- - 4 Major reserve upgrades completed or commenced.

#### **7.9 - Emergency Planning Activities (eg. disaster recovery / business continuity plans)**

The City of Charles Sturt has a disaster recovery and business continuity plan in place. In addition a Community Emergency Response (CERM) plan has been developed which details Council's involvement, action plans and contingencies for dealing with community risk scenarios from an emergency, through to a crisis, to a declared disaster. These plans are to be used as guides when, or if, the need arises to respond to emergencies that have a greater effect on the community as a whole.

A Council wide Emergency Response Planning group has been established. This group meets quarterly to discuss topical issues and to review and amend as necessary Council's disaster recovery plans. Representatives from state emergency agencies such as the SES, Police and Ambulance Services also attend these meetings.

#### **7.10 - Rural and Urban Planning Activities (eg. number of development applications assessed by EHOs)**

4,807 applications were lodged for Development Approval at the City of Charles Sturt. The Environmental Health Team worked closely with the Planning and Development Portfolio to ensure that all development applications that incorporated a health component were assessed. The exact number of development applications assessed by Environmental Health Officers at the City of Charles Sturt is not known as a register is not currently maintained.

#### **7.11 Other**

##### ***Earth Hour***

Earth Hour is a global climate change initiative that uses a simple symbol - turn your lights off during Earth Hour to cast your vote for the Earth. The event took place on Saturday 28 March 2009 between 8.30pm and 9.30pm. Council endorsed participation in this event at the 9 February 2009 Council meeting. The aim of participation was for the staff and community of the City to be involved in turning off their non-essential lighting and electrical appliances for Earth Hour, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions. A co-ordinated shut-down of lighting and other non-essential appliances at the community centres/neighbourhood house and branches of the library was achieved with the goal to have as many council-managed sites participating as possible.

##### ***Towards One Planet Living: Greening the Western Suburbs 2008-2012***

Council's environmental management plan was developed and finalised in 2008/09. The final plan (Towards One Planet Living: Greening the Western Suburbs 2008-2012) lists a range of strategies and actions to reduce our ecological footprint, and help our community to

do the same. Strategies are included for climate change, water, biodiversity and waste issues. With the plan now finalised all staff share responsibility for its implementation.



**Council's Towards One Planet Living Document**

### ***Regional Approach to Environmental Education and Promotion***

The Cities of Charles Sturt and West Torrens have formalised a regional partnership to deliver environmental education and build sustainability capacity within Western region communities. The efficiency of alternating hosting responsibility (and delivery of shared programmes) through multiple venues and cross-promotion are identified as key innovations. A number of varied activities have been programmed for the next 12 months, with each council taking a lead-role on a rotating basis.

### ***SWAP and SAVE Promotion***

The City of Charles Sturt was one of ten participant councils selected to deliver the Swap and Save trial, whereby residents received a free 3-star WELS-rated showerhead in exchange for their old inefficient showerhead. Approximately 300 participants exchanged over 400 showerheads in a 4 week period through Council's libraries. This equated to a water saving in our community of 6.4 mega litres (ML) per annum. In addition the money raised from scrapping merchants for the old showerheads was donated to Council's Youth Central Emergency Relief programme to assist young people in crisis.

## 8. OTHER

*Please provide details of any other public & environmental health issues encountered by Council. (eg, complex investigations, participation in major events and festivals, strategic planning and implementation programs etc)*

### **Community Health Report**

A comprehensive community health profile of Charles Sturt was developed at the end of the reporting period to assist Council in gaining a thorough understanding of the health impacts affecting our residents. This report, prepared by Kath Moore and Associates, will be used to assist Council in the provision of services and facilities that benefit its ratepayers, residents and visitors, as well as to assist in the planning and implementation of valuable health promotion activities, projects and services within our area.

A workshop was held with key staff members from across the organisation to review the initial findings of the report and to receive feedback regarding possible future strategies for community health services for our area. After careful consideration and discussion of the issues raised in the report, a list of actions that could be carried by Council to address some of the key issues addressed in the short term were developed. These actions fell under three categories: Policy and Open Space, Library/Community Centres/Community Development and Environmental Health.

The report will be presented to Council's Executive Team and Elected Members in the next reporting period, with a list of priorities and key actions developed to assist in the promotion and protection of health of the residents of Charles Sturt.

### **Shared Immunisation Services**

In a regional approach to providing health services, the City of Charles Sturt and City of West Torrens continued to work together to provide a partnered immunisation program. Staff between both Council's was shared on numerous occasions to ensure adequate coverage of staff for public clinics and the school immunisation program. Discussions continued throughout the year with management at the City of West Torrens to formally amalgamate the services which may have both economic and social benefits. This will allow clinic locations to be designed on a needs basis across the 2 local government areas rather than simply basing clinic locations within our respective municipalities. This approach of delivering shared services is in line with Charles Sturt's and the States direction of providing services on a regional approach rather than simply providing services within the boundaries of individual municipalities.

**Date this report is to be presented to Council**

**14/09/2009**

**This report is to be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 in soft copy emailed to:**

**[andrew.vickers@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:andrew.vickers@health.sa.gov.au)**

**Please note that hard copies are no longer required to be sent to the Public and Environmental Health Council.**