

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GRANT

2008 / 2009 ANNUAL REPORT
 To the SA Public & Environmental Health Council pursuant to Section 44 (1) of the
PUBLIC & 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 full time employed environmental health officers (approx 38 hours/week) (30 June 2009)			
Full name	Qualifications	EHO experience (years/months)	Commenced working for council (date)

Permanent part time employed environmental health officers (30 June 2009)				
Full name	Qualifications	Average hours worked per week	EHO experience (years/months)	Commenced working for council (date)
Bob Dunstone	Royal society of Health Diplomas Health and Food Inspection	45	33	10/3/03
Louis Jarvis	Bachelor of applied Science Environmental Health	38 Shared 38 hrs with City of Mount Gambier	12 months	1/08

Temporary contract employed environmental health officers (30 June 2009)				
Full name	Qualifications	Average contracted hours worked per week	EHO experience (years/months)	Contract start/finish dates

Contracted non-employee environmental health officers (30 June 2009)				
Full name	Qualifications	Average contracted hours worked per week	EHO experience (years/months)	Contract start/finish dates

Environmental health officer positions vacant (30 June 2009)				
Position type (fulltime/ part time/ contract)	Position hours/week	When the position was first advertised (date)?	Number of suitably qualified applicants (at 30/6/09)	Comments regarding this position.
Full time	38			Position placed as Environmental Health Cadet

Number (FTE) of Ancillary Staff that assist council to fulfil its responsibilities under the <i>Public & Environmental Health Act, 1987</i> (30 June 2009)	
Immunisation Nurses	
Administration	.6 FTE
Other (please specify)	

1.2 Staff Training

Detail training and development implemented during the financial year to maintain/develop EHO or ancillary staff skills and knowledge.
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Plumbing Training Course EHA and DOH

Legionella manufactured water systems regulations

Emergency Response workshop

Food Act enforcement

PUBLIC & 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
Public & Environmental Health Act, Part III				
15 & 16	Prevention / offences re insanitary conditions on premises	1	1	
17	Control of offensive activities			
18	Discharge of wastes in a public place			
19	Private thoroughfare			
20	Provision of adequate sanitation			
21	Pollution of water			
22	Closure of water supplies			
Regulations 1995 - Waste Control				
Reg. 19	Maintenance orders		3	Complied
Reg. 24	Connect to STEDS		24	

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).

Dead Stock issues in farming areas. Resolved by removal/burial of stock

2.1.2 Please briefly describe the properties most implicated in the insanitary conditions reported (eg rental properties, privately owned).
No insanitary conditions reported

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

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.

Removal of Dead stock from paddocks generally only 2/3 instances a year reported

3 PRIORITY OF PUBLIC & ENVIROMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

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

One of the major issues facing the community is of waste disposal. Council currently operates 3 Landfills and 2 Waste Transfer Stations. Plans are in motion for the closure of the 3 remaining Landfills by 2010. This process is underway but has suffered from transfer of land issues which are to resolved and subsequent operation of a further Transfer Stations

Council has seen excellent MGB recycling returns; however, the segregation of waste at landfills is somewhat troublesome. Council anticipates that this issue will be resolved by the newly appointed caretaker of Landfills/WTS. This should then result in a smoother transition in 2010 for Council and residents.

Waste water control systems in concentrated communities continue to be of concern but are being overcome by the installation of Community Waste Water Management Systems.

3.2 Prioritisation process

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

Compliance with EPA requirements

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

All priority issues within Council are prioritised using a risk assessment basis.

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).

Given the low percentages of residents from vulnerable populations there are no Council operated programs directed at vulnerable populations. Approximately 0.6% of the population identify as Aboriginal and 2% of the population speaking a language other than English.

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	2	2			2
Spa					
Hydrotherapy					
Waterslide					
Other					
Total					

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	2	2			2
Warm Water System	1	1			1
Other					
Total	3	3			3

Any Additional Comments?

Council has two sites with cooling towers installed, with one site having three units and one site having four. These are well maintained by a service agents. The new registration program has assisted in the inspection of these facilities.

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

Type of System	Number of applications	Number of routine inspections	Number of complaints
Septic Tank	84	100	6
Aerobic System	32	38	4
Other (name)			
Total	116	138	10

Any Additional Comments ?

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	
Number of School Clinics	
Number of Internal (Council Staff) Influenza Clinics	2
Number of External Influenza Workplace Clinics	
Number of Other Workplace Clinics	2
Total	4

All immunisations are performed by the Mount Gambier Community Health Service, who deals direct with the CDC Immunisation section. Council does not participate in immunisations at the school based programs

4.5 Notifiable Disease Follow Up

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

Council has been remarkable free of Notifiable Disease incidence during the year with only 1 case of Campylobacter.

One each of rotavirus, arbovirus, and Hepatitis A No follow up carried out.

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					
Hairdressing & Beauty Salons (including those that undertake skin penetration)	2	2			
Other					
Total	2	2			

Any Additional Comments

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		
Rodents		
Head Lice		
Flies		
Pigeons		
Scabies		
Cockroaches		
Bees		
European Wasps	5	
Other (please describe)		

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

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

2 kennels operate in the Council area

4.9 Outline any preparation work done for Pandemic Flu

A program of awareness posted around the work environment.

A process of education as to awareness of the individual as to their own illness and coping with the need for isolation as needed.

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

IF NO

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

YES

IF YES

Date commenced June 2002

Have details of the plan been provided in previous reports ?

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.

Council's Strategic Management Plan is implemented for a period of four years and is reviewed on the third year.

The SMP core activities include;

- Regional and local transport infrastructure planning and provision
- Production of Commercial, Bulky Goods and Industrial Development Plan, Rural and Country Living Development Plan and Coastal Townships Expansion Plan
- Continued advocacy for services, facilities and projects for the community (Health and Medical Services, infrastructure, telecommunications, etc)
- Lobbying, planning and facilitation for services including aged care, youth services, etc.
- Continuation of the implementation of Township Plans
- Planning for the continued population growth for Mount Gambier and the surrounding Districts
- Electronic Service Delivery initiatives
- Review and production of Economic Development Plan and strategies to support development of new industry, expansion of existing industry and projects
- Continued implementation of continuous improvement systems throughout Council
- Review and production of long term Financial Plan linked to Asset and Infrastructure Management Plans to ensure long term financial sustainability of Council
- Review and integration of Occupational, Health and Safety Plan and Risk Management Policies into Council's Annual Business Plan and Strategic Plan

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.

Food safety week in co-operation with the City of Mount Gambier. Councils focus was back to basics where the basic safe food handling techniques were reinforced to the community.

-A significant amount of resources have been directed towards recycling this financial year. All new MGB recipients are given a copy of the MGB guidelines outlining what is acceptable in each of the bins. Some non compliance with the recycling guidelines had been reported which resulted in certain community areas being issued with guidelines and an audit of recycling being undertaken at the recycling centre. The overall reaction to the guidelines has been positive and has resulted in better recycling practices. Recycling has also been promoted at community events such as the Bayside Festival which has resulted in stall operators recycling more of their waste.

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)

Council is involved where necessary in the testing of bore water for nitrate levels as compared to the drinking water guidelines.

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

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

Council provides a refuse collection service where household refuse and recycling is collected from residents as per the MGB policy. 473tonnes of recyclables were collected from residents via the MGB service.

Council operates 3 landfills and 2 waste transfer stations. Throughout the 2007/2008 financial year 583 tonnes of steel and 600 tonnes of green-waste were diverted from landfill through the segregation of waste at the depositing sites.

7.4 Monitoring of Contaminated Land

Is a council operation however this is managed by other officers.

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

Asbestos is accepted at the Port MacDonnell land fill where it is suitably contained and handled

7.6 Monitoring of Air Quality

This remains an EPA issue.

