

## Howard Water Advisory Committee

### Meeting notes for Meeting 6: Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017 5.00pm –7.00pm, Whitewood Hall, Howard Springs Reserve

Present: Dave Liddle, Jan Hintze, Maria Kraatz, Mark Smith, Mathew Salter, Gerry Wood, Geoff Bird (representing AFANT)

Apologies: Kate Peake, Maree Bredhauer, Shane Papworth, Donna Jackson, Bill Risk

1. Welcome, Apologies

2. Notes of previous meeting

Accepted, minor changes to risk assessment.

3. Risk assessment for Howard Groundwater System

Risk assessment updated to reflect feedback from members (see attachment).

4. Plan objectives

Objectives for the plan were discussed and will be circulated.

5. HWAC communications

- The Minister to be informed that further work is required for whole of government website to enable easier access to information, such as water allocation planning. General consensus is the current setup is not user friendly and information is not intuitive.

Action: draft letter and circulate

- Dept now has a facebook page, this page will be used for HWAC updates, including links to factsheets about the plan, planning area and committee.
- Talent release forms required to enable photos of committee members to be used.
- Information requested about industry information sessions provided to convey licensing requirements.

6. HWAC meeting schedule and work plan to June 2017

The following dates have been set for future meetings:

- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 5-7pm
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 5-7pm
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 5-7pm
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 5-7pm

Also, a tentative date (Sunday February 19<sup>th</sup>) has been set for a field tour of the planning area.

This is still to be confirmed. If it's not possible to undertake on this date, it will be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

## 7. Other Business

- Definition of a waterway, and review of Water Act
- The committee raised concerns about the application of the definition of a waterway, particularly lagoons, as it appears to be inconsistent across the planning area. This has created concern in the community around development in areas that may be lagoons or wet areas, but not defined as such under the Act.
- This was also an issue in the context of the age of the Water Act.
- Concern was raised around how subdivisions are developed, particularly boundaries.

Action: Plan should include specific direction about subdivision not dividing waterways.

Action: Committee to write to the Minister to request clarification/explanation of the definition of a waterway, and timelines around a review of the Water Act.

## 8. Next Meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> March.