

# KINGSTON DISTRICT COUNCIL

PO Box 321, Kingston SE, SA 5275  
Ph. (08)87672033

## 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 Staff Numbers

Number (FTE) of Environmental Health Officers authorised by Council pursuant to the Public & Environmental Health Act, 1987	1
Number of EHOs with:-	
• 0 to 2 years EHO experience	0
• 2 to 5 years EHO experience	0
• More than 5 years (12 years)	1
Number (FTE) of Ancillary Staff that assist Council fulfil its responsibilities under the Public & Environmental Health Act, 1987	0
Immunisation Nurses	0
Other (please specify)	0

Ana Catarina Santos

Wattle Range Council - full time officer, - job share with Robe & Kingston - visit once a week

Bachelor of Applied Science - majoring in Environmental Health - Swinburne University of Technology.

Years of Experience: 13 years.

I am employed as a full time officer to Wattle Range Council, and that Wattle Range Council has an arrangement with Robe & Kingston whereby they charge for my services.

Average I work at Kingston 15 hours a week (two hour return trip) and Robe - 12 hours average a week (1.5 hours return trip)

If there is an urgent matter to deal with, I would attend to those either at Robe &/or Kingston Councils.

WRC - My Manager has qualifications as an EHO - he can attend to Environmental Health matters whilst I am away. He is authorised under P & EH Act - not as a FTE but roughly 0.3 of his time.

Kingston - My Manager who has plumbing background conducts inspections of STEDS/ CWMS connections & septic tank installations, Mozzie traps & eradicates European wasp nests. He spends 1/5 of his time.

Robe - No assistance.

There was no vacancy for the EHO position - arrangement with both Councils for my services were renewed for another three (3) years

## **1.2 Staff Training**

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

April 2009 – State Conference – EHA

November 2008 – Food Act Seminar

September 2008 – Seminar on Clandestine Laboratory

Attended SELGIG Meetings.

## 2. 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
<b>Public &amp; Environmental Health Act, Part III</b>				
15 & 16	Prevention / offences re insanitary conditions on premises	0	0	
17	Control of offensive activities	0		
18	Discharge of wastes in a public place	0		
19	Private thoroughfare	0		
20	Provision of adequate sanitation	0		
21	Pollution of water	0		
22	Closure of water supplies	0		
<b>Regulations 1995 - Waste Control</b>				
Reg. 19	Maintenance orders	0	0	
Reg. 24	Connect to STEDS	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).

N/A

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

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

N/A

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

N/A

### 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.

Nil.

### **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.**

Greater imposition on Council from EPA to close public access to landfill sites.

Council has completed the building of a new transfer station, but site is yet completed. The landfill site will be closing 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010, and the new site will be operation that date. Project cost of \$143,000.

Community Waste Management System.

Due to the increase density of housing in the township, Council has reviewed the current system however; the project has not been identified as a priority by LGA for funding and thus awaits consideration in future years.

Extension of Irrigation Area

Council has received the approval and the extension of the irrigation area of wastewater to the old school oval and the cemetery has now been completed. Project cost of \$200,000. Council is now looking at extending the scheme to the golf club.

#### **3.2 Prioritization process**

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

Greater imposition on Council from EPA to close public access to landfill sites.

The changes being imposed by EPA to meet more stringent methods of disposal of waste water.

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

The above programs were prioritised on basis of available funds to commence the design processes and the push for improved environmental protection.

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

The building of a new 498 square metre Medical Centre has been completed in April 2009. The official opening was held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2009. The centre is leased to Limestone Coast Health Pty Ltd that provides medical services in Kingston, Robe and Lucindale.

Council has contributed to the Project by means of allocating the land for the building, provide a long-term lease, project management, and funding. A grant has also been obtained from the Commonwealth Government as part of the Rural Medical Infrastructure Fund. The total cash and in-kind cost of the project is approximately \$900,000.

## 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	3	3	0	0	3
Spa	0				
Hydrotherapy	0				
Waterslide	0				
Other	0	0	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

#### Any Additional Comments

There are two (2) public swimming pools in Motel complexes. Both facilities have outdoor swimming pools.

There is also a swimming pool at the Kingston Area School, used for swimming lessons, community swimming, and vacs swimming.

### 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 Pool	Number in area	Number of routine inspections	Number of complaints	Number of Inspections related to complaints/investigations	Total number of inspections
Cooling Tower	0				
Warm water System	1				
Other					
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>				

#### Any Additional - Comments

Council has only one (1) warm water system located at the Kingston Soldier Memorial Hospital. Council is not aware of any other units in its area. Council will be undertaking the inspection and water testing of this warm water system in accordance with the Public & Environmental Health (Legionella) Regulations 2008.

**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	21	15	
Aerobic System	1	0	
Other (name) STEDS	12		
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>15</b>	

Any Additional - Comments

**4.4 Immunisation programs**

**4.4.1 Regularity of Council Operated Public Clinics**

Council has an agreement with the health providers through the Medical Centre (Limestone Coast Health Pty Ltd) to provide the immunisation programs including the school immunisation program. Public Immunisation sessions are available every first Tuesday of every month. Bookings are required.

**4.4.2 Regularity of School Clinics**

All School based immunisation clinics are organised and run by Kingston Medical Centre.

**4.4.3 Regularity of Workplace Clinics**

Council has recently reviewed its Communicable Disease & Immunisation Policy & Procedure, and carried out individual risk assessments to identify the likelihood of contracting diseases that staff may be exposed to through work activities – vaccination of Hepatitis A & B and Q- Fever has been made to all staff at risk. Council also offers free flu vaccinations to all staff.

4.4.4 Number of Vaccinations provided (Vaccination types from the Australian Immunisation Handbook 8<sup>th</sup> Edition)

Type of Vaccination	Total number of Vaccinations
Hep B	
DTPa	
Hib	
IPV	
PCV	
MMR	
VZV	
PPV	
Influenza	
dT	
Other (name)	
<b>Total</b>	

All vaccination details are available from the Department of Health by Council's health provider, Limestone Coast Health Pty Ltd

4.4.5 Have you had any adverse events occur at the clinics or reported to the Council (please describe).

See statement in 4.4.4 above.

**4.5 Notifiable Disease Follow Up**

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

If advised a follow up investigation is carried out on cases where food history is required. There has been no request from the Communicable Disease Control Branch, to undertake any follow up investigations in this financial year.

**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	0				
Hairdressing & Beauty Salons (including those that undertake	2	0	0	0	0

skin penetration)					
Other					
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Any Additional Comments:

Council has two (2) commercial hairdressing salons that also provide beauty services. No skin penetration is performed in these salons.

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

<b>Vector or Pest</b>	<b>Number of Complaints</b>	<b>Control Program (Y/N) (Please provide further details below)</b>
Mosquitoes	0	Y
Rodents	2	N
Head Lice	0	
Flies	0	
Pigeons	0	
Scabies	0	
Cockroaches	0	
Bees	0	
European Wasps	2	Y
Other (please describe)		

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

European Wasps

Council eradicates all nests that are located. Council carries out such eradication at no costs to the owner.

Mosquitoes

Council has implemented a mosquito-trapping Program, to determine the type of species within its area. Traps are laid at four (4) different locations overnight and picked up early next morning. The program starts in September through to summer period. Relatively large numbers of mosquitoes were trapped – some of which were identified as potential carriers of Ross River Virus. Due to the numbers trapped, Council undertook a treatment program to reduce/control the numbers of mosquitoes. Council purchased ProLink XR Briquets and these were laid strategic locations in the outskirts of the township. It has been an effective treatment program.

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

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

**4.10 Other**  
Nil.

**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)

<i>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.</i>
--

## **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.*

Council has endorsed FoodSafe Food Handlers Training Program to its region and a very positive response has been received by all food businesses. Most of the food premises have been accredited to date. There are currently six (6) food premises that are undergoing the Program. On completion of the Program, final audit takes place to determine if the business has achieved FoodSafe accreditation requirements.

Council hopes that all food premises become FoodSafe and then be able to promote Kingston as a FoodSafe Town.

It is anticipated that more of food premises in Kingston will be ready for accreditation during 2009/010 financial year.

Council has a Food Sampling Program, and conducts sampling on a quarterly basis. Sandwiches with various high-risk fillings, like chicken, have been targeted. Any unsatisfactory result, a further follow up food sampling is conducted to determine as to whether or not there has been any improvements.

## **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 collected a sample for microbiological quality from a residential rainwater tank due to suspicion of causing illness, due to water contamination. Water testing result showed that the water from the rainwater tank was not the cause of illness. Council has not received any other complaints.

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

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

See item 3.1 and 3.2

### **7.4 Monitoring of Contaminated Land** Nil.

### **7.5 Monitoring and Control of Hazardous Substances (eg. asbestos, medical waste)** Council keeps a Register of asbestos of all Council owned buildings, which are inspected on an annual basis by Council's Manager of Environmental Services for their state and condition.

### **7.6 Monitoring of Air Quality including Noise**

Nil. Generally referred to EPA for action.

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

Council has risk management program that includes regular inspections and repair/maintenance to ensures the safety of recreational facilities and playgrounds under council control.

### **7.8 Emergency Planning Activities (eg. disaster recovery / business continuity plans)** Nil.

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

All Development Applications that involve dwellings, additions to dwellings, and commercial proposals that involve food premises, are referred to the EHO for assessment of waste control systems and other issues related to Environmental Health.

### **7.10 Other** Nil.

## 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)*

Nil.

**This report is to be presented to Kingston District Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009**

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

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

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